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EWS FROM AGRICULTURE

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 15, 1962

Plant Trees for Income From "Lost Acres"

Trees can make a good income crop for those "lost acres" on land that is too rough, too steep, too irregular or too small for the usual farm crops.

Many farmers who have tried to farm hilly, eroded land without much success should consider a pine plantation for long-time returns, says L. B. Culver, extension forester at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

Loblolly pine growing on "lost acres" in southern Illinois can grow as much as 1 1/2 cords of pulpwood an acre a year and return as much as 6 percent on the investment, Culver points out. Standing trees there are worth $2.12 a cord for pulping at the present time. The value of the trees on $25-an-acre land in 16 years can increase the value of the land plus crop to $75 an acre.

You probably can't do so well in the northern part of the state, Culver says, but a tree crop can still bring a good return. Loblolly pine seedlings are listed at $10 per thousand this year, but they will grow only in southern Illinois. Such species as red, jack, Scotch and white pine for northern Illinois plantations range in price up to $18 per thousand.

However, the Agricultural Conservation Program will pay $22 per thousand for trees planted. This means that the ACP will buy the trees and pay some of the planting cost, depending on how much you pay for the trees.

Not all "lost acres" are clear enough of brush for easy planting or proper tree growth. Again, the ACP will pay as much as half of the clearing costs up to a maximum payment of $10 an acre.

See your county extension farm adviser for a price list of available trees, and get your order in now. Find those "lost acres" and make them busy acres.

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RAJ:cm
1/10/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 15, 1962

National Agriculture Honorary Recognizes U. of I. Students

Twenty outstanding juniors in the University of Illinois College of Agriculture were honored at a banquet this week by Gamma Sigma Delta, the national agriculture scholastic honorary.

These students, pursuing many different phases of agriculture, were honored for their high scholastic averages during the first two years in college. All of the students honored are in the upper 10 percent of their class.

Award winners from this area are:

(NOTE TO EDITOR: Names of those receiving recognition are given below.)

Town (Ill.)	Name	Major
Blandinsville	Max A. Peterson	Agricultural Science
Brownstown	William H. Cole	Vocational Agriculture
Bourbonnais	James L. Vetter	Vocational Agriculture
Carlinville	William D. Gleason	General Agriculture
Champaign	Leo W. Quirk	Food Technology
Charleston	Peter J. Barry	General Agriculture
Decatur	Dave L. Mussulman	Agricultural Science
Newman	Clint W. Magill	Agricultural Science
Niantic	Edward H. Leonard	Animal Science
Moweaqua	Dale W. Fathauer	Vocational Agriculture
Oswego	Robert J. Condon	Agricultural Science
Paris	Ronald L. Stickler	Vocational Agriculture
Paxton	Robert J. Reber	Animal Science
Pesotum	John P. Lloyd	Agricultural Science
Ransom	Wayne L. Sampson	Vocational Agriculture
Rio	Harold W. Watters	General Agriculture
Tolono	Dale E. Schroeder	Vocational Agriculture
Wapella	William M. Hull	Agricultural Industry
Winnebago	Richard L. Liston	Wood Utilization
Wisconsin		
Butler	Ronald L. Laechelt	Forestry

JEL:cm
1/10/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 8, 1962

Report Farmer Experiences With Multiple Farrowing Systems

The experiences of 262 Illinois hog farmers using various systems to produce 30 or more litters a year were reported this week by University of Illinois agricultural economist A. G. Mueller.

For farmers producing 30 to 200 litters a year, the size of enterprise did not significantly affect the number of pigs weaned per litter, the death loss or the amount of feed required to produce 100 pounds of pork.

Farmers with these larger enterprises used some type of multiple-farrowing system. This enabled them to spread the labor loads resulting from a large number of sows farrowing at one time.

Most large-scale enterprises studied used a two-litter system, in which one group of sows farrowed twice a year, or a modified two-litter system, in which pigs were farrowed during two periods but the time was extended so that more than one group of sows farrowed within each period.

The farrowing system did affect the feed costs. Farmers using a one-litter system had the lowest feed costs, while those using the six - and eight-litter systems had the highest costs. With a one-litter system, pigs were typically farrowed in late spring and used pasture and salvaged corn from stalk fields. They were not subject to hazards and discomforts of cold weather. On nine farms using this system, feed costs averaged $8.34 per hundred pounds of pork produced.

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On 230 farms using a two-litter, modified two-litter or four-litter system, feed costs averaged about $9.90 per hundred pounds. This was significantly lower than on 23 farms using six- and eight-litter systems, where feed costs averaged about $10.45 per hundred pounds.

The type of farrowing facilities used did not seem to affect the number of pigs weaned per litter by these operators.

Of these farms, 46 percent used central farrowing facilities, 40 percent used portable facilities, and 14 percent used a combination of central farrowing in winter and portable houses in summer. Only 7 percent kept their hogs in confinement for the entire production period. A total of 13 percent used confinement for rearing and finishing.

About 52 percent used pasture or open lots in winter for rearing and finishing their hogs. About 35 percent used pasture for rearing the pigs but finished them out in confinement or drylot facilities.

The choice of pasture or confinement rearing and finishing systems did not affect the feed requirements or feed costs.

The results of this study suggest that cost-of-production advantages for several hog production systems are related to the investment and operating costs for buildings, equipment and labor, items not investigated in the study, Mueller points out. Feed costs and pigs weaned did not differ and therefore would not be a factor in choosing which system to use.

The choices an operator makes for his hog production system must also consider his entire farm organization and his skills in handling hogs. Accurate information about the labor requirements of various buildings and equipment used under farm conditions are not readily available. Additional studies of buildings, equipment and labor costs for different hog production methods on Illinois farms are needed, Mueller concludes.

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1/3/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 8, 1962

Keep Farm Records For Business Planning, Not Just For Income Tax

A University of Illinois farm management specialist this week urged farmers to keep farm business records for business planning, not just to file their income tax returns.

Robert B. Schwart points out that using a farm account book to file a satisfactory income tax return is important, but it should do more than that. A good farm record book will show which enterprises contribute most to the farm income, help locate weak spots and give other key information, such as crop yields, pigs weaned per litter, eggs produced per hen, milk produced per cow and labor and machinery costs per acre.

This type of information helps a farmer control costs and put emphasis on his most profitable enterprises.

To meet today's competition, a farmer needs some basic business tools. These tools are a good farm account record, a good long-time farm operating plan, an annual financial plan and a continuous net worth statement. These tools may contribute more to net income than some of the machinery housed in the tool shed, Schwart believes.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 22, 1962

Report Changes In Illinois Rural And Urban Population

While Illinois' population rose more than 1.3 million from 1950 to 1960, only half of the counties gained while the other half lost inhabitants. These shifts in population have brought major problems to the institutions and agencies that serve people, not only in the areas gaining population but also in those of declining population, a University of Illinois rural sociologist reports.

C. L. Folse observes that most population gains have occurred in the northern, central and east-central counties of the state and in those counties with large cities. The counties losing population are concentrated in the southern and western areas of the state.

Folse also notes the following changes that have occurred:

The census now classifies the population as about 20 percent rural. The remainder is urban, in places of 2,500 or more.

The excess of births over deaths accounted for about 90 percent of the Illinois population gain from 1950 to 1960. About 10 percent was due to net migration into the state.

The 10 percent net gain through migration was due entirely to a rise in the rural population. Urban areas actually lost residents through migration. The trend is a reverse of the long-time pattern of rural residents migrating to urban areas. It also shows that cities have grown through annexation, taking in more area, rather than gaining population through more dense settlement within the former city boundaries.

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Nonwhite population made up 10.6 percent of the total in 1960 compared with only 1.8 percent in 1900. The rapid growth of nonwhite population in recent years indicates a heavy migration from southern states since 1940.

Women outnumbered men in 1960, as they did in 1950. For every 100 white females, there were 97 white males. For every 100 nonwhite females, there were 93.4 nonwhite males. The increasing number of females is due to different death rates and the longer life expectancy of females.

The counties showing the most significant population gains, amounting to one-third or more of the 1950 population, were Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, Will and Winnebago.

Counties showing the greatest population losses, amounting to one-fifth or more of the 1950 population, were Alexander, Gallatin, Hardin, Johnson, Pope, Pulaski and Saline.

Rural population declines were due to the smaller number of people living on farms. Where counties gained in rural population, it was due to rural nonfarm residents who live in the country and work in large centers.

The sparse number of people and small size of many counties pose acute problems of planning and organization to meet the demands for schools, local government, roads, police and fire protection and other services. Perhaps the time is ripe for considering the needs for geographic and political reorganization of some of these units to maintain services from tax resources at an equitable cost. Many Illinois counties were created when local government was largely determined by horse-and-buggy transportation over unimproved roads, Folse concludes.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 22, 1962

4-H And FFA Calf Sale Set For February 24

Illinois 4-H and FFA members in the market for dairy project calves can buy them at the 14th annual 4-H and FFA Club Sale in Urbana on February 24.

The sale starts at 11 a.m. in the University of Illinois stock pavilion.

The sale is sponsored by the Illinois Purebred Dairy Cattle Association to give 4-H'ers and FFA members a chance to get first-rate project stock at a fair price.

U. of I. extension dairy scientists Jerry Cash says about 80 calves will be sold. Consignment by breeds includes 30 Holstein, 20 Guernsey, 15 Jersey, 15 Brown Swiss and 10 Ayrshire calves.

Only bona fide Illinois 4-H and FFA members are eligible to buy calves. However, if the member cannot attend, he may designate another person to buy an animal for him.

All purchasers must certify that the calves will be used only for 4-H or FFA dairy projects. For sale catalogs, write to J. G. Cash, Department of Dairy Science, University of Illinois, Urbana.

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1/17/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 22, 1962

Agronomist Advises Management For Weed Control

There is still no substitute for good management to lick weeds in lawns. But if management doesn't crowd out weeds, chemicals are available to clean up any lawn pests, agronomist F. W. Slife reported at the Fourteenth Annual Spray Operators' School here this week.

On dandelion and plantain, 2,4-D does an excellent job. However, Silvex or 2,4,5-TP may soon replace 2,4-D as the best material for controlling all broad-leaved weeds.

Endothal is exceptionally good for controlling knotweed and white clover, Slife advised.

Two new chemicals, Dacthal and Zytron, along with calcium arsenate, should give home owners effective control over crabgrass. To be most effective, any of these crabgrass killers should be applied before the seed germinates, Slife pointed out.

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1/17/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 22, 1962

Use Chemicals As Extra Weed-Killing Tool

Much progress has been made recently in developing preemergence herbicides for corn, but consider them as chemical tools to add to cultural practices--rotary hoeing and cultivating--rather than replacements, agronomist E. L. Knake advised at the Fourteenth Annual Custom Spray Operators' School here today.

Atrazine and Randox head the list of chemicals in the weed-killing arsenal recommended for corn in Illinois this year.

Atrazine controls both annual grasses and broad-leaved weeeds. It has performed especially well on soils that are low in organic matter. Simazine is preferable to atrazine on sandy soils, Knake added.

Randox controls annual grasses but not broad-leaved weeds. It works well where foxtail grasses are a problem. The granular form of Randox reduces the irritation to skin and eyes--common in the liquid form--but won't eliminate it completely, Knake advised.

Although 2,4-D ester primarily controls broad-leaved weeds, it may give some control of grass if enough rain falls soon after it is applied. It may injure corn if heavy rains occur soon after treatment. The agronomist also warned against using 2,4-D ester on sandy soils.

An added chemical in Randox-T improves control of broad-leaved weeds, Knake said, but there's still some question of crop tolerance, especially when soybeans follow corn.

Eptam is recommended only where Johnsongrass or wild cane is a problem. It should be worked into the top inch of soil with a harrow or rotary hoe. Eptam may damage corn, Knake pointed out, but it won't be nearly so severe as the damage from Johnsongrass or wild cane.

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1/17/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 29, 1962

Be Enthusiastic But Realistic About Your Family Garden

Many Illinois homeowners have received seed catalogs in the mail. Their arrival will relieve some of the tedium of a dreary winter and stir enthusiasm within the receiver. But before becoming overenthusiastic, decide what you want your family garden to do for you, advises University of Illinois vegetable crops specialist J. S. Vandemark.

Decide now whether you want your garden to furnish a big part of the vegetables you'll use this summer, to supplement your vegetable use or to serve as a summer hobby. After you've made this decision, you'll be able to adjust your space requirements realistically, Vandemark points out.

And along this line you'll want to know the amount of space to allow each crop, planting dates in your part of the state, disease and insect control and recommended varieties. All of this information is in Circular 816, "Illinois Garden Guide," available at your county farm adviser's office.

Many of the catalogs will include new varieties. By all means try them if you're interested, says Vandemark, but also use a standard variety so that you'll be able to compare your results this summer.

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1/24/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 25, 1962

Special Custom Spray School Coverage

More Insects In 1961

There were more insects in 1961 than in 1960, according to University of Illinois extension entomologist H. B. Petty.

And Illinois farmers fought back by treating almost 3 1/2 million acres of field crops with insecticides, Petty reported today at the fourteenth Illinois Custom Spray Operators' Training School on the U. of I. campus.

By battling clover, alfalfa and corn insects as well as the grasshoppers and true armyworms, farmers earned an estimated gross profit of almost $11 million.

In 1961, farmers treated 2 1/2 million acres of corn with soil insecticides. During the winter months or early spring, 86,800 acres were treated with soil insecticides. Winter application, however, did not control black cutworms.

In the northern two thirds of the state, Petty said grasshoppers were especially troublesome. Farmers applied insecticides to ten times as many acres as in 1960.

Pea aphids were not controlled soon enough. Some alfalfa and red clover fields in western Illinois were killed.

On the other hand, cutworms were not so severe as in 1959 and 1960. Only about half as many acres of corn had to be replanted this year as in 1959.

Airplane application of insecticides increased because of winter application of soil insecticides and more grasshopper control, Petty noted.

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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 5, 1962

14th 4-H And FFA Dairy Calf Sale Set For February 24

Early consignments and intense interest shown by breeders indicate that the 14th annual 4-H and FFA dairy calf sale will be one of the best of the series, says J. G. Cash, University of Illinois dairy scientist.

About 80 top-quality calves from Holstein, Guernsey, Brown Swiss, Jersey and Ayrshire breeds will be sold at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, February 24, at the College of Agriculture's stock pavilion.

This sale is unique in many ways. So far as is known, it was one of the first of its kind in the country. The entire sales force donate their services so that consignors won't have to pay a charge for selling. In the past 13 years,1,146 calves have been sold at these sales.

Only bona fide Illinois 4-H and FFA members are eligible to buy calves at this sale. However, if the member cannot attend, he may designate another person to buy an animal for him.

All purchasers must certify that the calves will be used only for 4-H or FFA dairy projects. For sale catalogs, write to J. G. Cash, Department of Dairy Science, University of Illinois, Urbana.

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1/31/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 5, 1962

Future Of Rural Trade Center Depends On Local Leadership

Communities with the will and vision to fill the wants and needs of the people will survive, a crusading newspaper editor told an audience of agricultural business leaders here today.

H. Clay Tate, editor of the Bloomington Pantagraph, reported that sales tax returns show that smaller towns in his area are doing well in comparison with Bloomington, Decatur, Springfield, Champaign, Peoria and Kankakee. A recent Bloomington retail survey spotted Bloomington's competition as Pontiac, Lincoln, LeRoy, Gibson City and communities like them, he pointed out.

But at best there will be some rural trade center casualties in the years ahead, Tate predicted. He cited the second industrial revolution, the continuing revolution on the farm and changes in transportation and education as affecting the fate of the rural trade center.

Tate urged that every one living or doing business in the rural trade center make sure that it will attract people. This calls for cooperative planning; informed, selfless people who can finance the planning; employing capable professional assistance; ironing out honest differences; erasing prejudices; reorganizing governmental units where necessary; and building homes and churches, paving streets and providing adequate utilities.

Survival of rural trade centers calls for the very best that the most capable people in a community can provide, with assistance from competent consultants, he concluded.

Tate spoke before one of the sessions of the University of Illinois Agricultural Industries Forum.

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1/25/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 5, 1962

Report Trends In Machinery Use On Illinois Farms

An Illinois farmer now spends fewer hours on his tractor to produce an acre of corn but his machinery operating costs per acre are higher than they were 10 years ago, a University of Illinois agricultural economist reported this week.

A. G. Mueller pointed out that the tractor hours to produce an acre of corn dropped from 5.3 in 1952 to 3.6 in 1960. The number of hours of labor have decreased directly with tractor use.

At the same time farmers now have more tractors per farm and these tractors have higher horsepower.

While the machinery investment per acre on a selected group of farms rose sharply from 1947 to 1952, the investment per tillable acre has actually decreased on some farms since 1952. Mueller reasons that many Illinois farms now have older or less total equipment than they had eight years ago.

The costs of operating machinery, such as depreciation, repairs, fuel and machinery hire, have risen 50 to 60 percent on record-keeping farms since 1947-49, Mueller reported.

Records show that larger farms have certain advantages in lower machinery costs. Costs per $100 of production averaged $24 on northern Illinois grain and hog farms under 180 acres. On similar farms with over 500 acres, machinery costs averaged only $20.40 for each $100 of production.

Mueller spoke before the machinery session of the University of Illinois Agricultural Industries Forum.

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1/29/62

IEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 12, 1962

Develop Budget Form For Deciding On Feed Grain Program

University of Illinois farm management specialists have developed a special budget form to help farmers work out their decisions on the 1962 feed grain program.

By using the form, farmers may estimate their income if they participate and if they do not. The form shows estimated fertilizer and other crop costs based on detailed research studies conducted by the department of agricultural economics.

When a farmer has worked through the form, he can see the difference between his net crop income from participating and from not participating. Agricultural economists also suggest that he will want to consider the amount of storage space he has and the effect of participation on livestock, soil conservation and fertility, other farm operations, price and production risks and work load, and the effect on agriculture and society as a whole.

These budget forms with instructions for working them out are available in each county farm adviser's office.

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2/7/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 12, 1962

Deadline Approaches For Food Tech Scholarship Applicants

High school seniors desiring consideration for ten $300 college scholarships in the field of food science and technology have only a few weeks left in which to apply. The deadline is March 1, according to R. T. Milner, head of the University of Illinois food technology department.

Students may obtain application forms from the Department of Food Technology, 213 Mumford Hall, University of Illinois, Urbana.

Milner points out that the University of Illinois is the only institution in Illinois now offering a curriculum in food technology. This curriculum covers the application of science and engineering to the production, processing, packaging, distribution, preparation and utilization of food. A college degree in food technology prepares students for many careers in business or research.

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2/7/62

IEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 19, 1962

2,700 Pounds Of Beef Produced From An Acre Of Corn

Research at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station shows why corn silage continues to be a popular feed on Illinois farms.

Calves full-fed on corn silage demonstrated that an acre of corn preserved as silage could produce 2,728 pounds of beef. These calves were weaned from the herd about mid-November and put on test at about 430 pounds. During the next 92 days they gained more than 150 pounds, or an average of 1 2/3 pounds per head per day. The daily ration was 31 pounds of silage and 1 pound of soybean meal with a simple mineral mix free choice.

The corn silage was made from regular corn that produced nearly 21 tons of silage per acre with 30 percent dry matter. This same corn produced about 95 bushels of grain per acre. The 95 bushels of corn at $1.20 a bushel would be worth $114. The hay equivalent in stalks, leaves and cob of the silage at $20 a ton would be worth about $88. So, before feeding, an acre of this silage may be figured to be worth $202.

When this feed was fed to healthy calves, the resulting 2,728 pounds of gain, valued at 20 cents a pound, plus the 1,350 pounds of soybean oil meal that were fed, were worth $545.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 19, 1962

UI Research Shows Advantage For Early-Cut Hay

University of Illinois dairy research points out a major reason why cows yield more milk on early-cut hay than on hay cut in the late stages.

U. of I. dairy scientist John Byers says cows in a recent study showed the major difference in the two hays by the amounts of each they ate.

Cows on late-stage hay ate about nine less pounds per day than other cows receiving similar hay cut in the bud-stage. And to make up for lower consumption on late-stage hay, each cow put away about seven more pounds of grain daily.

The research indicates that a 30-cow herd feeding on late-cut hay would need about 200 pounds more grain per day than cows eating bud-stage hay.

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2/14/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 26, 1962

Keep Children Away From Livestock

Farm animals will fight to protect their young. Many children are injured each year because parents fail to guard their youngsters from injury by cross livestock.

Spring is a particularly good time to resolve to keep children out of the barnyard or livestock pens, says O. L. Hogsett, extension safety specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture. It's a good idea all year long, but when new farm offspring are appearing regularly, the danger increases.

Usually the youngster means no harm. He just wants to see or pet a new lamb, pig or calf. But the animal's mother doesn't know that and is likely to injure the child in protecting her own young.

So don't blame the livestock. It's up to you, as parents, to help satisfy your child's natural curiosity about young animals by letting him pet one outside the pen. Tell him that's the only safe way to get acquainted, and see that the rule is enforced.

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2/21/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 26, 1962

Store Gasoline In Metal Containers

As part of this year's spring farm cleaning, O. L. Hogsett, extension safety specialist at the University of Illinois, suggests buying a metal safety can for gasoline storage.

Jugs that once held cider, disinfectant or other liquids often end up as gasoline storage containers, and that is where the trouble begins. If glass jugs were broken after being used once, fewer gasoline accidents would result.

One reason a glass jug isn't suited for gasoline is that it breaks easily. And, if a gasoline-filled glass jug is involved in a fire, it will either crack or explode, depending on how tight the cap fits and how much fuel is in the jug. In either case it causes a bigger fire.

Hogsett says the solution to this problem is to use a metal can. If you are buying a new one, it is wise to spend a little more for a safety-type can. This kind of can has a spring-loaded lid that will automatically close if the can is dropped. This lid also allows for fuel expansion without danger to the can.

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2/21/62

EWS FROM AGRICULTURE

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 5, 1962

Lambs Thrive On Pelleted Creep Rations

Since lambs do well on pelleted creep rations, the decision to use them will depend on their cost, according to D. E. Walker, University of Illinois livestock extension specialist.

Pelleted rations can be recommended for creep-feeding lambs when they cost no more than other rations, when a producer has to buy all of his creep feed, when he has a large percentage of twins or when he has some later lambs that he wants to market in 90 to 120 days.

Some farmers feed complete pelleted rations to lambs and reduce or eliminate the grain fed to the ewe. They may use either a commercial ration or formulate their own. A common pelleted creep feed consists of 44 pounds of shelled corn, 40 pounds of dehydrated alfalfa meal, 10 pounds of soybean meal, 4 1/2 pounds of molasses, 1 pound of bonemeal, 1/2 pound of trace-mineralized salt and antibiotics. Some feeders replace the shelled corn and part of the alfalfa meal with ground ear corn. Others use good-quality ground legume hay to replace the dehydrated alfalfa meal.

Walker recommends that farmers check prices on complete pelleted rations. If they cost less than $55 to $60 a ton, they are often practical. If they cost more, be sure the advantages will offset the extra cost, he concludes.

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2/28/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 5, 1962

Let's Stop Killing Our Children

Accidents kill more than one-third of all children who die each year. Between 11,000 and 13,000 children are killed in this country annually. And 40,000 to 50,000 others are permanently crippled by accidents.

Think of happy, carefree children free from scars, broken bones or missing legs or arms. You can have it this way if you want it, says O. L. Hogsett, extension safety specialist at the University of Illinois.

The answer is simply to prevent accidents.

The solution to the problem rests largely in your hands as parents. Children form most of their habits before they start school. So set good examples for children to follow. If they see you doing the right thing, they will do it too.

Not only will you help your children form good, safe habits of work and play, but you will also be safer yourself if you do things correctly.

The best way to beat accidents is to make safety a family affair. By working as a team to weed out unsafe attitudes and hazardous conditions, you can insure the continued happiness of yourself and your family.

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2/28/62
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 5, 1962

A Clean Farm Is A Safer Farm

For safety's sake, extend spring housecleaning to your whole farmstead.

O. L. Hogsett, extension safety specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, reports that tools, bags of feed, buckets and just common trash are responsible for hospitalizing one of every five farm accident victims.

Not only that! Studies from the Illinois Rural Safety Council show that, next to poor judgment, disorder is the largest single cause of injuries.

Inside and out, get rid of trash, paper, scattered boxes and boards, rags and rubbish. They're serious fire hazards and ideal breeding places for rats and mice.

Tear down and dispose of broken, wobbly steps that can cripple someone for life.

Remove old, tottery buildings on your farmstead. They certainly don't add to the beauty of your farm, and they're often the cause of serious injuries.

Throw out unmarked bottles of poison, and don't take chances even on clearly marked poisons. Be absolutely sure they're out of the reach of children and animals.

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JEL:dl
2/28/62
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IEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 12, 1962

Veterinarians Uncertain Whether Deer Spread Disease To Livestock

With an ever-increasing deer population roaming Illinois woodlands and prairies, more and more livestock owners, veterinarians, public health officials and conservation people are asking, "Can deer spread disease to livestock?"

This question is not easily answered. University of Illinois veterinary researchers say that in some cases deer may spread disease to livestock. But livestock may also spread disease to deer.

Scientists say the giant liver fluke, which causes high mortality in sheep, can be transmitted by deer. On the other hand, experimental work in several states proves that deer have not been implicated in the spread of brucellosis. In fact, the infection is probably transmitted from cattle to deer.

The role of deer in these two diseases is clear, but that is not the case with leptospirosis.

Blood tests have proved that deer can have lepto. Bacteria causing lepto localize in the kidney. But, according to reports from various parts of the country, these organisms have not been isolated from kidneys of infected deer.

Because bacteria do localize in the kidney, they are usually shed in the urine. Only on rare occasions have bacteria been detected in urine of infected deer. Researchers in New York and Canada who have

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found the bacteria say they cannot be detected from deer for longer than a month. Cattle may shed the organisms for three months; swine, for as long as a year. This prolonged shedding is the main reason most scientists consider swine the primary reservoir of lepto.

Before either wild or domestic animals can be labeled a reservoir of a disease, there must be sufficient evidence:

1. Large numbers of the species must remain infected for a prolonged period.

2. Organisms causing the disease must be easily transmitted from infected or carrier animals to susceptible animals. Naturally, before organisms are transmitted, they must be shed by the infected animal.

3. There must be sufficient contact--either directly or indirectly through ponds, etc.--between carriers and susceptible animals.

In some areas of Illinois there is sufficient contact between deer and livestock. But this is unimportant, since deer rarely shed organisms causing lepto. Explains Dr. L. E. Hanson, U. of I. veterinary pathologist, "There have been hundreds of attempts to isolate lepto from urine of infected deer. Isolations have been so rare that deer cannot be considered an important reservoir of lepto."

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CP:dl
3/8/62
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 12, 1962

Be Careful With Heat Lamps

With winter still around, O. L. Hogsett, extension safety specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, has some good advice for using heat lamps for brooding pigs.

Get safe, properly designed fixtures, and then install them right. Whether you buy the fixtures or make them yourself, they should have these features:

1. The lamp should be protected by a canopy or shield.
2. The fixture should hang from a separate chain or wire, with no strain on the electric cord.
3. It should have a switchless porcelain receptacle.
4. The cord should be resistant to moisture and high temperature. (Asbestos insulated cord with rubber or neoprene covering is satisfactory.)

In installing the lamps, protect the lamp unit from the sow by a sturdy barrier. The face of the lamp should be at least 18 inches from the bedding. If the fixture hangs in the open pen, it should clear the standing sow by at least six inches.

Place the outlets so that no lamp cord will be longer than six feet. Use at least No. 12 (preferably No. 10 or 8) wire to serve outlets. Then protect the circuits with 20-ampere fuses. No more than seven 250-watt lamps should be connected to any one circuit.

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JEL:OLH:dl
3/7/62
NO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Improve Soils For Greener Lawns:

Vigorous green lawns don't just happen. They require alert management by homeowners who know how to prevent problems before they start.

The plant nutrient level in lawn soil determines the growth of lawn grasses. R. A. Miller, University of Illinois horticulture specialist, recommends checking this level every four or five years. A simple soil test for nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium will indicate the levels of these elements.

Nitrogen may be applied once, twice or even more often during the year. It may be applied as a topdressing in liquid or granular form with other elements early in the spring. However, in this form it may be lost through leaching.

A soil test will determine the level of soil acidity. Applications of limestone will correct acid soils.

Soil conditions should be considered before the lawn is established. This is the easiest time to add fertilizer or change the composition of the soil.

Sticky clay soils may need an inexpensive application of sand or other inorganic matter to improve their workability. Organic matter in sandy soils acts as a sponge to absorb soil water. Compost and peat add organic matter, but a heavy application may require extra nitrogen for decomposition.

Yellow, slow-starting lawns may have a drainage problem. Plants, like people, must breathe. Waterlogged or tightly compacted soils prevent circulation of air to plant roots. Damp soils tend to slow down germination.

If subsoil drainage is inadequate, tiling may be necessary. The cost of tiling is high, but the reward will be an improved lawn. Drainage ordinances should be considered in planning a drainage system.

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WLH:dl
3/8/62
NO

IEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 19, 1962

Wild Animals Becoming Most
Important Source Of Rabies

For the first time wild animals are becoming a more important source of rabies than domestic animals, according to Dr. George T. Woods, University of Illinois public health veterinarian.

Of the 163 rabies cases reported in Illinois last year, 126 involved wildlife. Of this number, 95 were skunks.

The number of rabid skunks is alarming because of the growing popularity of skunks as pets. During 1957, there were about 21,000 pet skunks in the United States. Authorities say this number is increasing 10 to 15 percent each year.

"These figures illustrate the increasing risk of people getting rabies." Dr. Woods said, "because most pet skunks are taken from the wild. They are seldom pen-raised."

Direct contact is no longer the only means of getting rabies, however. Research indicates that airborne transmission of rabies is possible in caves populated by rabid bats. Scientists began studying this possibility after several people who had no history of animal bites died from rabies. In each case the person had spent a great amount of time in a bat-infested cave.

In testing this theory, scientists housed dogs, cats, foxes, coyotes, ringtails and skunks in impenetrable cages and placed these cages in a cave filled with bats. All coyotes and foxes died from airborne rabies.

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According to Dr. Woods, some wild animals are more susceptible to rabies than others. Tests indicate that opossums are extremely resistant to rabies. Raccoons are less resistant, followed by skunks and then foxes. Dogs are the most susceptible of the five animals.

Although skunks are more resistant to infection than foxes, they shed more virus once they are infected, Dr. Woods says. This means that an epidemic in skunks will last longer than an epidemic in foxes, making skunks potentially the more dangerous carriers.

Because of the increasing danger of wild animals, including bats, spreading rabies to man, livestock or pets, veterinarians urge the following precautions:

1. Stay away from wild animals who act strangely or appear friendly. Wild animals instinctively avoid people unless they are ill.

2. If you own a dog or cat, protect it and yourself by having it vaccinated for rabies.

3. If you are bitten by an animal, wash the injured area thoroughly with soap and water. Report all bites to your physician immediately.

4. If bitten, capture the animal but do not kill it unless necessary. It can be captured safely by using snares, traps of nets. Cage the animal and take it to a veterinarian or public health official.

It is often impossible to diagnose rabies in a dead animal. If you must kill the animal, be careful not to damage the brain.

5. If rabies is prevalent in the area, do not examine mouths or throats of sick pets or livestock. Wear thick rubber gloves when handling these animals.

6. Cooperate with your county board of supervisors and county rabies inspector in enforcing the Illinois rabies law.

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CP:dl
3/15/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 19, 1962

Use Bulk Fertilizer If Nutrients Are Cheaper

If bulk broadcast applications of fertilizer afford appreciable savings in the cost of the nutrients spread, use them.

That's the advice of University of Illinois agronomist S. R. Aldrich after conducting some recent research on bulk application of fertilizers.

Bulk spreading has been an important method of applying fertilizers in Illinois for many years and is still increasing. But usually the rate of application varies across the spreader swath, says Aldrich. This variation is common to all fertilizers that are broadcast, whether they are straight nitrogen, phosphorus or potassium carriers or factory-mixed pelleted fertilizers. With bulk-blended fertilizers, the ratio of nutrients on a given soil area also varies because of incomplete blending and segregation in transit or spreading, Aldrich adds.

The effects of these variations have been studied for the past few years in south-central Illinois. Even where the non-uniformity in spreading exceeded that expected in practical situations, the yields were nearly the same as with uniform spreading.

Aldrich concludes that the effect on yield due to uneven spreading of bulk fertilizer will be small if reasonable care is exercised in spreading single-nutrient carriers and pelleted fertilizer and in choosing materials, in blending and in spreading dry bulk blends.

In the long run, says Aldrich, the appearance of even or uneven growth in the field may determine farmer acceptance of bulk spreading more than actual crop yields.

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JJF:dl
3/15/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 19, 1962

Don't Be A Farm Accident Statistic This Year

Last year 11,500 people were killed in farm accidents. Perhaps you knew one of these people.

We are already in the third month of 1962, and what have you done to make your farm and home a safer place to live? asks O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois extension safety specialist.

During 1961, about 1 1/4 million other people suffered loss-of-time accidents. That is another reason why we must concentrate more on safety this year. Remember that, in addition to suffering pain, and possible loss of life, victims of serious farm accidents cannot do their part in producing needed food and fiber.

More workers are accidentally killed in farm work than in any other major industry. But the death rate from accidents is about three times as high on farms as in industrial plants where safety precautions are more rigidly observed.

Can you afford to be lax in following safety precautions? Do you want to be an accident statistic this year?

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JEL:OLH:dl
3/15/62
NO

IEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 26, 1962

Illinois 4-H Enrollment Reaches All-Time High

Illinois 4-H Club membership climbed to a record high of 76,597 in 1961--up more than 3,500 over the previous record set in 1960. The new total includes 44,062 members in the 4-H home economics program and 32,535 in the agricultural program.

State 4-H leader R. O. Lyon says beef, swine and dairy are the high-interest projects in the 4-H agricultural program. More than 8,000 4-H'ers carried beef projects in 1961, boosting beef ahead of all other agricultural projects for the fifth year in a row.

Swine ranked second with 6,263, and dairy ranked third. Other popular agricultural projects were garden, sheep, poultry and corn.

A record high 37,147 4-H girls were enrolled in food preparation. This represents a jump of 2,829 over 1960 and contributed greatly to the record membership in home economics 4-H projects, according to Arlene Wolfram of the state home economics 4-H staff.

Clothing with an enrollment of 27,126 and room improvement with 7,004 ranked second and third as popular home economics 4-H projects. Many girls carried both food preparation and clothing projects.

Lyon points out that the total U. S. 4-H enrollment was about the same in 1961 as in 1960. The 1961 4-H enrollment for the nation totaled more than 2 1/3 million. In Illinois, the 4-H program is directed by the Cooperative Extension Service at the University of Illinois.

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HDN:dl
3/22/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 26, 1962

Livestock Key To Pasture Profits

High-yielding pastures will be more profitable than mediocre pastures only if they are well stocked to efficiently convert the forage to beef or milk.

Research workers at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station have found that these practices will help a farmer get more return from his pastures:

Start the grazing season with thin steers. Thin steers on pasture alone will gain about 65 pounds more than fleshy or half-fat animals.

Wormy steers should be drenched with phenothiazine before being put on grass.

Use stilbestrol implants on steers. An implant of 12 or 24 milligrams can add an extra 20 to 30 pounds of gain per head.

Feeding on pasture after the first 90 to 100 days of grazing can mean more efficient pasture use. Tests show that steers may gain nearly twice as fast during the first 114 days as in the rest of the pasture season.

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3/21/62
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MONDAY, MARCH 26

U. Of I. College Of Agriculture Holds Guest And Hospitality Day

High school students at the Agriculture Students Guest and Home Economics Hospitality Day Saturday, April 7, on the University of Illinois campus are in for an interesting and enjoyable program, according to Associate Dean Cecil D. Smith.

A college skit featuring today's college fashions and meetings with University staff members for information on career opportunities for a college of agriculture graduate are two of the activities planned for visitors, Smith said.

The Ag Guest Day program starts at 9 a.m. in the University Auditorium, while the Home Ec Hospitality Day begins at 9:30 a.m. in Lincoln Hall Auditorium.

Both programs feature information on admission, costs, scholarships, loans and housing. University President David D. Henry will meet with visitors at 11 a.m.

Also planned are campus tours, special luncheons and plenty of time for visitors to ask questions about college.

Last year more than 1,200 high school students, their parents, teachers and friends attended.

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3/21/62
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 2, 1962

Check Lightning-Rod Ground Connections During Spring Cleanup

The lightning protection system on buildings is only as good as the ground rods, says a University of Illinois extension safety specialist.

O. L. Hogsett says the ground rods often rust off a few inches below the ground. The rod may look solid, but it won't protect anything.

Spring brings thunder showers that also include lots of lightning. You should include lightning rod inspection in your spring cleanup. Give the whole protection system a good going-over, especially the ground connections. If you break a ground rod, it was too weak and rusted to do any good.

Replace broken rods with new 5/8-inch rods 8 feet long. Use a good clamp to fasten the cable to the rod.

Check to see that livestock haven't broken the junction between cables and ground rod through constant rubbing on the cables.

A good spring cleanup makes any farm safer.

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JEL:OLH:kb
3/28/62
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 2, 1962

Illinois Cattle Feeders Day At Urbana April 13

Illinois cattle feeders will gather on the University of Illinois campus at Urbana on Friday, April 13, to hear the latest research results.

Tours of the research farm begin at 9 a.m. Cattle in current feeding tests will be on display. A completely automated feeding system will also be in operation.

During the afternoon in the University auditorium, research workers will discuss recent research results. Topics include relationship of nitrate content of feed and Vitamin A in the ration, effect of energy level in the ration on protein requirements of finishing cattle, effect of heavy silage feeding on feed requirements and carcass quality, and factors affecting yield of trimmed cuts in the beef carcass.

L. H. Simerl, U. of I. agricultural economist, will discuss the beef cattle outlook. J. R. "Uncle Joe" Fulkerson, 93, Jerseyville, will report on changes he has seen since the first cattle feeders day he attended 50 years ago. Anyone who is interested in cattle feeding is invited to attend.

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HDG:kb
3/28/62
NO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Replace Or Renovate "Worn Out" Shrubs

Flowering shrubs, like people, lose some of their vigor with age. If flowers become small and off-color and the leaves lose their luster, the shrub may be "worn out." With such plants, the homeowner has two choices--replace or renovate--says University of Illinois landscape horticulturist H. R. Kemmerer.

Often new and better varieties are available to replace old shrubs. These new varieties bloom longer and have better flowers and more disease resistance than older varieties of the same species. Before making replacements it may pay you to check for new improved varieties, says Kemmerer.

But if the worn-out plant was good at one time and better varieties aren't available, he advises renovating. Since blossoms appear on new wood, prune out all old wood. Shrubs like lilac, forsythia, mock orange or privet can be cut off at ground level when plants are dormant. This drastic treatment may mean that no flowers will appear for two years, but often a new shrub takes as long to bloom, Kemmerer points out.

Usually, if the plant isn't too worn out, cutting out several old canes at ground level and pruning the remaining canes back--still maintaining the shape of the shrub--will give the desired result. The main purpose of renovating is to stimulate new canes from the roots, says Kemmerer.

For a complete rejuvenation, Kemmerer suggests fertilizing at the rate of 2 pounds per 100 square feet with 5-10-5 or a similar fertilizer. Then to keep the plant cool, to stimulate growth from roots and to conserve moisture this summer, he advises mulching with 3 or 4 inches of cracked corncobs. Ground corncobs will keep the soil too wet--and they often sour. Peat moss 1 1/2 inches deep or straw may also be used, but these materials may blow away easily, Kemmerer points out.

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3/29/62
NO

EWS FROM AGRICULTURE

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 9, 1962

Dress "Fit To Live" For Farm Work

Dress fit to live rather than fit to kill this spring when you're operating power tools around the farm, cautions O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois extension safety specialist.

Work clothes, he points out, can be deadly dangerous. Loose, ragged garments can cause accidents when they get tangled in shop tools and machinery.

Safe work clothes should be simple in design, smooth-fitting and clean.

For safety in operating farm tools around the farm, don't wear a wrist watch, necktie or ring, Hogsett further cautions.

He also says that the safety-conscious person works with his sleeves rolled up and wears safety goggles, even if he wears regular glasses, when grinding metal or using any machine that produces loose objects.

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JEL:OLH:dl
4/4/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 9, 1962

Clean Up Before Busy Farm Season Starts

Before the busy spring season starts, clean up hazards that have accumulated around your farm this past winter.

Every farm family should plan a spring cleanup all around the farm, says O. L. Hogsett, extension safety specialist at the University of Illinois.

"A place for everything and everything in its place," is a good safety slogan. Disorder around the farm and home is responsible for hospitalizing one out of every five accident victims.

Check your farm shop. Make sure that tools are in good repair and in their right places. Remove the accumulation of scrap metals and debris and trash, such as paper, packing boxes and boards, that are fire hazards and ideal hiding places for rats.

At this season many barns have become cluttered with things used during the winter. With the coming of spring it is important to find suitable locations or storage space for feed, tools and other equipment to keep alleyways and work areas clear. A little cleanup now not only will provide a healthful environment, but will help to save time and manpower throughout the coming farm season.

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JEL:OLH:dl
4/4/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 9, 1962

Fertilizer Pays In Your Home Garden

Fertilizing your home garden according to a soil test is the most accurate way to determine what plant nutrients you need. But if you haven't had time to test your garden soil, University of Illinois vegetable crops specialist J. S. Vandemark gives this rule of thumb to guide you:

If your garden is in the same area year after year and has received fertilizer, using 5-10-10 at the rate of 25 pounds per 1,000 square feet should produce good results. For handy home measuring, that's about a heaping one-pound coffee can of fertilizer per 100 square feet. This amount provides enough nitrogen, phosphorus and potash without becoming toxic to garden plants, Vandemark advises.

Many gardeners wonder about trace elements. Don't. Illinois soils, says Vandemark, have adequate supplies of trace elements. There are few, if any, cases where trace elements would benefit your garden crops.

When should you apply fertilizer? It's best to apply it before you plow or spade so that you can work it 4 to 6 inches deep in the soil. It's best to apply the entire amount when working the soil rather than sidedressing later. If you want to sidedress later, use only a coffee can of fertilizer per 1,000 square feet when tomatoes have set fruit or, in the case of corn, when it is 6 to 12 inches tall.

Using the right kind of fertilizer in a solution will give transplanted stock a real boost, says Vandemark. A high-phosphorus fertilizer is important here, he points out. Use a soluble fertilizer with a 10-52-17, 10-50-10 or similar analysis at the rate of two tablespoons per gallon of water. A cup of this solution to each plant tends to establish roots, settles the soil around the plant and stimulates root growth.

JJF:dl
4/4/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 16, 1962

Crossbreeding Boosts Dairy Herd Livability

Twelve years of dairy crossbreeding research at the University of Illinois indicate that hybrid vigor--well known for upgrading production records in hogs and corn--may also hold promise for the dairy industry.

U. of I. dairy researcher R. W. Touchberry says the study shows a higher livability rate for crossbred heifer calves than for purebreds. It appears that the work may also show higher butterfat and milk production through crossbreeding.

Touchberry says 31 of 147 purebred heifers born during the study failed to live to calving because of weakness in the breed group. Only 14 of 164 crossbreds were lost for the same reason. From a purely practical standpoint, this means that a dairyman with a crossbred herd would have lost less than half as many animals due to weakness and disease as a dairyman with purebreds.

But, as Touchberry is quick to point out, these results do not indicate that purebred breeders should crossbreed just to boost livability of their stock. Obviously the economics of losing a herd's purebred identity would in many cases more than offset the advantage of the more hardy crossbred animals.

However, from the standpoint of herd health and longevity, crossbreeding seems to hold a real place for the commercial dairyman keeping a grade herd--a category that includes most of the nation's dairymen.

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HDN:ml
4/11/62
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 16, 1962

Repair Farm Equipment Ahead Of Planting Time

It's part of good planning to check farm machinery repair needs well ahead of the busy spring planting, advises O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois safety specialist.

You can avoid production headaches and prevent accidents if you will make needed repairs and replace worn parts before planting starts. Not only is it dangerous to operate equipment in faulty condition, but sometimes a breakdown will indirectly lead to a serious accident because an operator is out of patience and in too much of a hurry.

Early inspection and servicing of equipment is the first step in safe operation. Check your tractor, plows, cultivators and planters to be sure that seats, brakes, clutches and other controls are in good condition.

After replacing worn parts, be sure all exposed revolving parts on machinery are properly shielded. Make sure hitches are in good condition. Provide lighting on equipment, particularly if you are going to drive or pull it on the highway. Check fuel lines and wiring system, and equip your tractors with fire extinguishers.

Remove grease, dirt and trash from platforms and steps so that you can have safe footing when you operate your equipment.

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JEL:OLH:dl
4/12/62
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 16, 1962

ecord-High Fire Loss In 1961

Fire, always a constant threat to the modern farmer, last year ook 3,000 lives and destroyed $152,000,000 worth of farm property.

Combustible materials like hay, straw and gasoline, plus heat-roducing machinery, matches and smoking, or sparks from motors, not to ention the chance of lightning, combine to increase the danger of fire n the farm, says O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois extension afety specialist.

Because of these dangers, farmers must take necessary safety recautions in all farm buildings, new as well as old. The precautions hould extend to every phase of the farm's operation.

Do each part of your daily work with the threat of fire in ind. Inspect your entire farm carefully for fire hazards. Heat, sparks r flame and combustibles like hay, straw, gasoline or fuel oil don't ix. So keep plenty of space between them.

When fire strikes a farm, the greatest enemy is comparative solation from the local fire department and also from an adequate water upply. This is why farm buildings are often completely destroyed when hey catch fire, and also why first aid and fire-fighting equipment is a ust for every farm.

Put fire extinguishers in your home, tool shed, tractor shed nd garage and on your tractor and farm equipment. There is no one xtinguisher that can be used on every type of fire. The main thing s to know how to use the one you have.

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JEL:OLH:dl
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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 23, 1962

Spring Boosts Road Traffic

Springtime brings many family cars out of the garages where they have spent much of the winter.

Week-end drives around the countryside are popular during warm weather.

This means more vehicles on the road than during the past few months. And there will be a greater need for safe driving practices, says O. L. Hogsett, extension safety specialist at the University of Illinois.

Enjoy your trips--but drive safely. Remember, your car does what you, the driver, causes it to do.

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JEL:OLH:ml
4/17/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 23, 1962

Tornado "Season" Is On The Way

Tornadoes, the most violent and spectacular storms produced by nature, are a menace to life and property. Fast action is necessary to escape their fury, says O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois safety specialist.

Knowing what to do when you see a tornado may mean the difference between life and death.

Keep calm. It will not help to get excited. Tornadoes usually move in a northeasterly direction at 25 to 40 miles an hour. If one is coming toward you, move at right angles to its path. If there isn't time to escape, lie flat on the ground, facing down, in the nearest ditch or ravine. If possible, get into a culvert.

If you are at home and don't have a cyclone cellar, the southwest corner of the basement usually offers the greatest safety. If time permits, shut off electricity and heating appliances. To reduce damage to the building, open doors and windows on the north and east sides of the house.

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JEL:OLH:ml
4/17/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 30, 1962

Less Farm Labor Used
For Crop Production

Farm labor used for crop production has decreased more than 60 percent in the past 40 years, according to University of Illinois cost studies in central Illinois

Just as old Dobbin stepped aside for tractors before World War II, larger tractors have displaced smaller units since the war, says R. A. Hinton, University of Illinois agricultural economist.

Improved methods of growing and harvesting have cut the man hours used to produce an acre of corn to one-third of the time needed in 1920.

While man hours per acre have decreased, yields per acre are increasing. This has tipped the farm market cart in favor of fewer hours per bushel. Today only one-fifth as much time is required to produce a bushel of corn as was needed in 1920.

The use of larger power-drawn machinery and shifts toward reduced tillage practices account for the recent reduction in labor and tractor hours. Grain crops lead hay crops in the labor efficiency increase.

Increased yields and labor-saving machinery make it possible to produce crops at lower cost, says Hinton. But farmers must be able to plow back profits to pay for labor-saving machinery. These labor-efficient machines release man hours which must be gainfully employed for maximum family earnings.

Hinton emphasizes that the small farmer with limited capital will find it increasingly difficult to compete with efficient mechanized farming operations.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 30, 1962

tart Tender Garden Crops Inside

Starting tender vegetable plants--tomatoes, peppers and egglants--inside will enable Illinois gardeners to get ahead of uncooperaive weather, says University of Illinois vegetable crops specialist . S. Vandemark.

Tender crop seedlings need protection from the weather before oing to the field, along with high temperature and moisture for good ermination in the "flat" or temporary seedbed. A piece of wax paper r polyethylene over the flat reduces evaporation, making ideal growing onditions, advises Vandemark.

Usually 12 to 18 tomato plants, a dozen peppers and a few ggplants will supply the average family. But it's best to overplant and remove the excess plants. Taking out the excess plants makes watering easier and produces sturdier plants.

Stocky plants make the best transplants, says Vandemark. Plenty of space promotes stocky growth. When the plants are about four inches high, cutting between plants with a common kitchen knife will promote root growth. This develops a mass of roots close to the plant rather than letting the roots spread. Repeating this cutting just before transplanting helps the plant get started sooner outside.

While the average gardener may be getting anxious to transplant tomatoes, Vandemark recommends keeping the plants in the house until about late May. Late frosts severely damage tomatoes, he warns.

When transplanting, he recommends making a starter solution of 10-52-17 at the rate of two tablespoons per gallon of water. Using a cup of this solution per plant will reduce the shock of transplanting and encourage root development.

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JJF:df
4/25/62
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 30, 1962

Corn Planter Speed Important

Farmers who are tempted to pull the corn planter faster than the maximum recommended speed will benefit from these figures from Wendell Bowers, University of Illinois agricultural engineer.

Bowers cites laboratory tests in which a seed-corn stand adjusted to drop 15,200 kernels per acre at three miles per hour dropped 14,300 kernels at 5 miles per hour and only 13,200 kernels at 7 miles per hour.

Increasing the population dropped the planting rate even more. When the test stand was adjusted to drop 18,800 kernels per acre at 3 miles per hour, it dropped 17,400 kernels at 5 miles per hour and only 15,000 kernels at 7 miles per hour.

Bowers says the owner's manual tells how to adjust the corn planter for the correct population. It is also an excellent guide for determining the speed of the planter for a given planting rate.

The manual also indicates whether your planter can use plates with more than 16 cells. If so, you can drive faster at the same planting rate, Bowers explains.

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HDN:df
4/25/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 7, 1962

esearch Improves Flowering Quinces

Several new improved flowering quinces, resulting from Univerity of Illinois research, offer homeowners a greater selection of these rnamentals, says U. of I. landscape horticulturist H. R. Kemmerer.

Six new varieties resulting from selections by A. S. Colby, rofessor emeritus of horticulture at the University of Illinois, are ecommended for midwestern conditions, says Kemmerer. They are Staright, High Noon, Arthur Colby, Spring Fashion, Echo and Red Sprite. y checking these varieties while they are in bloom, homeowners can get n idea how the plants will grow under their conditions, Kemmerer sugests.

Starlight produces the tallest shrub among the new varieties. t grows upright and has moderately thorny multistemmed twigs and lowers 1 3/4 inches in diameter.

High Noon has moderately thorny branches. The plant is as ide as it is tall. Its double flowers create an excellent two-tone ffect. It flowers prolifically in midseason.

Arthur Colby grows moderately tall--about two-thirds the eight of Starlight--in a vase-shaped pattern. It has prolific blooms easuring up to two inches in diameter. When cross-pollinated, it prouces late-maturing fruit.

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Spring Fashion, with stocky branches and short lateral branches, produces a bold textured effect. Its flowers are deep pink outside and white in the center, later deepening to rose. The plant produces ribbed, green, moderate-sized fruit.

Echo, a late-flowering variety, produces rose-colored flowers. Its tall, narrow, upright growth makes it suitable for use as a hedge. It produces little fruit and has few thorns.

Red Sprite, a relatively thornless variety with short, upright growth, is the "compact" of these introductions. It seldom grows above knee height. Moderately late-appearing jasper-red flowers have an overlapping, frilled effect. The plant produces abundant amounts of attractive, early-maturing, greenish-yellow fruit with just a tinge of red.

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JJF:kb
5/2/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 14, 1962

Offer Home Improvement Plan Book

The home owner's biggest bargain for 1962 may be a new 48-page book of ideas and designs for home improvement now available from the University of Illinois Department of Agricultural Engineering.

The booklet, entitled HOME IMPROVEMENT PLANS, contains dozens of plans for furnishings that can be built in the basement workshop. The list of plans includes diagrams for sewing centers, room dividers, clothing closets, laundry centers and the home office. Eight pages are devoted to the kitchen alone.

U. of I. agricultural engineer Don Jedele says plans in the 8 1/2" x 11" booklet were developed by engineers and home economists in 13 land-grant colleges. It is published by the Midwest Plan Service.

The home improvement plans book should be of special value to people in growing and developing rural and urban areas. It is designed for home builders, home owners or home planners.

On inside pages, the book includes data on building materials, types and sizes of screws and nails, "split-resistance" of common hardwoods and recommendations on insulation, ventilation and method of keeping the basement dry.

Jedele says home owners can get the new home improvement plans book by sending $1 with their names and addresses to the Department of Agricultural Engineering, University of Illinois College of Agriculture, Urbana.

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HDN:dl
5/10/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 14, 1962

Records Are Still Best Dairy Production Guide

Research data from more than 2,000 dairy cows show that the tape measure will probably never replace the record book as an indicator of a heifer's milk-producing potential.

University of Illinois dairy researcher R. W. Touchberry says dairy breeders have long looked for a single body measurement or a combination of measurements that could predict the productive performance of heifers. However, recent research indicates that no single body measurement is likely to be as accurate in predicting a heifer's production as the record of her dam.

The scientists did find that using 6- and 12-month forechest girth measurements along with the dam's milk production gave a better idea of a heifer's production potential than using the dam's milk production alone. However, even this practice was not accurate enough to give a guide equal to selecting cows on the basis of their own first records.

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HDN:dl
5/9/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 21, 1962

Tractor Power Replaces Manpower On Illinois Farms

Larger and more powerful tractors are providing the power needed for fewer farmers to maintain food production for a growing population. A recent University of Illinois study shows important trends in the horsepower ratings of tractors used on central Illinois farms since World War II.

J. E. Wills points out that since 1945, the number of tractors has risen 30 percent while the number of farms has dropped 20 percent. The work capacity of the tractors has also risen.

More than half of the tractors made in 1960 were over 50 drawbar horsepower compared with only one-fifth in 1956. Small tractors with less than 35 horsepower dropped from 90 percent of the total in 1951 to only 15 percent in 1960-61.

The U. of I. study showed that the average horsepower per tractor on farms jumped about 50 percent and the horsepower per farm nearly doubled between 1946 and 1960. Farmers use the large tractors more hours per year than the smaller tractors.

Wills explains these changes this way:

Farms have grown larger. These farmers averaged 70 acres more corn and soybeans in 1959-60 than in 1946-47.

Farmer operators have substituted tractor horsepower for labor. They now hire less labor and use less family labor, but they are working more hours.

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A reserve of tractor power helps boost crop yields and reduce farming risks. The higher capacity tractors and machines provide real insurance against costly delays in carrying out farming operations.

Some farmers may have more power than they can use effectively, Wills believes. However, others could profit by using more power. The farm operator faces a complex decision in choosing power units that will boost profits. He must consider his acreage, labor, cropping system, yields, as well as the costs of tractors and other machines.

These trends reflect another important power revolution on Illinois farms. During the 1920's and 30's, tractors replaced horses and man labor. During the late 40's and 50's, larger and more powerful tractors have replaced more manpower.

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HDG:dl
5/16/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 21, 1962

Hay Conditioners Popular Among Illinois Dairymen

The use of hay conditioners is on the upswing in Illinois.

Although conditioners were introduced only a few years ago, they are now being used by well over half of the dairymen enrolled in the Dairy Herd Improvement record keeping program.

University of Illinois dairy scientist G. W. Harpestad says the main reason the practice has been adopted so rapidly is that it reduces the time hay must remain in the field for drying.

Studies by U. of I. agricultural engineers show that hay which has been run through a conditioner will dry in half the time it takes to dry unconditioned hay. Cutting drying time in half doubles the chances of putting up hay without rain damage.

Harpestad says many dairymen using hay conditioners also report that cows like it and eat more of it than regular hay.

Hay conditioners crack stems lengthwise and reduce them to the equivalent of several smaller ones. The process opens up the moist inner parts of the stems, bringing them into more direct contact with the air. As a result, the stems dry almost as fast as the leaves.

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HDN:dl
5/16/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

JNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 28, 1962

Feed Grain Program Most
Attractive To Average Farmer

A study of 38 central Illinois farms shows that a farmer could comply with the feed grain program for one year without reducing his net earnings. And at the same time farmers who complied helped reduce surpluses by about 100 tons less corn per farm.

In a report released this week by the University of Illinois Department of Agricultural Economics, D. F. Wilken and Boyd Henry reported that farmers with low corn yields compared to base yields or with less efficient management probably found the 1961 feed grain program most attractive. The effect of the 1962 program will probably be about the same on these farms if payments for diverted acres and open market corn prices remain about the same.

Wilken and Henry report that farms complying with the program averaged $2.84 less machinery cost per tillable acre than those not complying. Fertilizer costs for corn and wheat were about the same for both groups. Reducing corn acres apparently saved about $4.41 an acre in total costs. But the total value of production was $8.36 less per tillable acre on the complying farms.

The farms outside the program averaged 102 bushels per acre compared to 97 bushels per acre on complying farms. When the yields were adjusted to the same level, there was little difference in net

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earnings between the two groups. Soil quality was basically the same for the two groups of farms.

This study alone does not tell a farmer whether he should or should not participate in government acreage adjustment programs, Wilken and Henry point out. Each farmer must consider his base yield, available grain storage, market price for corn, age, size of farm, alternative uses of labor and machinery, and general attitude toward a farm program.

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5/23/62
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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 11, 1962

Illinois Land Values Recover From 1960 Slump

Illinois land values have recovered from most of the 1960 downward adjustment, a University of Illinois agricultural economist reports.

Franklin J. Reiss says the latest U. S. Department of Agriculture survey shows that Illinois land values on March 1 were about 81 percent above the 1947-49 average. The peak value, reached in June 1959, was 84 percent above this base period.

Reiss believes that the price recovery has been due to (1) demand for land to enlarge farms, (2) current improvement in net farm income, (3) feed grain acreage allotments and (4) scarcity of land for sale. He also makes these observations on the current land price situation:

With current market prices, farm land is earning a low rate of return compared with first-mortgage interest rates. As a result, some rather erratic changes in land prices may occur when large tracts are offered for sale.

Figuring land values in terms of bushels of corn per acre at current prices shows a steady uptrend since 1950. This uptrend shows that current land values include some of the benefits from new corn-growing methods and that buyers are willing to accept a low return on their land investment.

The current demand for land to enlarge farms encourages buyers to include the benefits of advancements in growing corn into the price they are willing to pay. This willingness not only may keep present land prices high, but may also contribute to a continuation of the present trend, Reiss concludes.

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HDG:dl
6/6/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 11, 1962

Your Lawn Needs Summer Care

If you're going to have a green lawn in June, it will take some work. But you'll be happier with a well-tended lawn, promises University of Illinois landscape horticulturist Harleigh Kemmerer.

He proposes this five-pronged attack on lawn problems: Water correctly, control weeds, mow properly, fertilize and control diseases and insects.

Fertilize. Use one pound of actual nitrogen per 1,000 square feet. If you're using a 10-6-4 or similar analysis fertilizer, this means 10 pounds of the fertilizer per 1,000 square feet of lawn.

Water. What's the ideal amount of moisture for lawns in the summer? One inch per week. But often rain doesn't come the way you like it, so try to put on an inch in three hours. A coffee can or two set under the sprinkler will serve as a gauge. Or you can use a screwdriver to test moisture depth. The ground will be moist as far as the tool goes into the soil easily.

Control weeds. Control common lawn pests--dandelion and plantain--with 2,4-D. Control white clover with 2,4,5-TP. Use DSMA--disodium methyl arsonate--on crabgrass. And for a new lawn pest--nimblewill--use liquid zytron.

Mowing. A lawn that's clipped no shorter than 2 inches will stay green and crowd out weeds throughout the summer, Kemmerer advises.

Control insects and diseases. Control "melting out," a common ailment of summer lawns, with a fungicide like Kromad or some of the broad-spectrum fungicides. Aldrin, heptachlor or chlordane will control white grubs which often clip grass roots, causing brown, dry areas in your lawn.

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JJF:dl
6/6/62
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 11, 1962

Prune In June

June's the time to prune evergreens, early spring-blooming shrubs and hedges as well as put the finishing touches on your landscape setting, says University of Illinois landscape horticulturist Harleigh Kemmerer.

He gives these pruning tips:

Evergreens, including pine and other candle types. Cut off all or a portion of the new growth. The amount will depend on how much you want to limit growth. To limit growth severely, remove all but about one-fourth inch of the new growth. To force the plant to remain narrow, remove new growth from center bud, Kemmerer advises.

Junipers, yews. Shape these types, following the general outline of the tree's original form. Ball or box forms give a sheared look.

Early spring-blooming shrubs. Such shrubs as forsythia and lilac need some of the old wood removed annually and about one-third of the length of the new growth cut out. These types should look pruned when you finish, says Kemmerer.

Hedges. Trimming hedges now, after the flush of spring growth, will lessen trimming during the summer. Trim the bottom wider than the top so that the sun may strike bottom leaves; otherwise foliage may drop because of lack of sunshine.

Finish. Prune out straggly branches in newly planted and older shrubs. Give a refined, groomed look to irregularly shaped shrubs.

For more information on pruning landscape plantings, county farm advisers offer two leaflets, Circular 708, Pruning Narrow-Leaf Evergreens," and Circular 779, "Pruning Trees, Shrubs and Roses."

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JJF:dl
6/6/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 18, 1962

Plantings Need Special Care

Recently planted trees, shrubs and evergreens need special care during changeable summer weather. Even plenty of rain doesn't guarantee the home owner success with landscape plantings, says University of Illinois landscape horticulturist Harleigh Kemmerer.

Often summer rains cause heavy runoff which prevents moisture from penetrating the root zone--where the plant needs it. So Kemmerer's advice is to water, water and then water some more! For best results, soak the soil around the new plantings at least a foot deep.

Kemmerer suggests putting new shrubs in a bed and cultivating the soil around them. Mulching around roots will improve the water-holding capacity of the soil so that moisture will work into it. Mulching also reduces the drying effect of the sun and eliminates weeds and grass that compete with the plant for nutrients and water.

Leaving a slight depression between grass and edge of new planting bed gives a continuous line and an attractive appearance. Brick or other material looks artificial and detracts from the setting, says Kemmerer.

One precaution for newly planted trees: Stake and brace them with wire so that they won't be unduly whipped by winds. Wind-shipping tears roots loose and dries out the new planting. Along with staking, Kemmerer advises wrapping the trunk with tree wrap after treating with insecticides to prevent attacks by borers and other harmful insects.

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JJF:kb
6/13/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 18, 1962

Agronomist Explains Sweet Clover In Alfalfa Fields

A University of Illinois agronomist today explained why many farmers find sweet clover in their fields. W. O. Scott says many of them think the sweet clover comes from contaminated alfalfa seed. But that will happen in few cases, Scott emphasizes, if farmers use one of the improved alfalfa varieties. Most of the betteralfalfas are produced under irrigation in the far west, where no sweet clover is grown.

The more likely reason that sweet clover is found in alfalfa fields is that the "hard seed" of sweet clover may stay in the soil for many years before it germinates. Scott says many farmers unjustly blame poor alfalfa seed when the sweet clover actually comes from sweet clover seed that has matured on the field sometime in the past five to ten years.

Scott cited an experiment in North Dakota in which a field of sweet clover was allowed to mature for seed. At no time after that was this crop grown on the field. But 14 years later sweet clover was still volunteering on this field.

So if you have sweet clover in your alfalfa fields, Scott suggests that you think back over the past cropping history of the field before you blame your alfalfa seed.

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JJF:dl
6/13/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE THURSDAY P.M., JUNE 21, 1962

U. of I. Dairy Survey Shows Many Milking Machines Need Repair

COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND--A University of Illinois survey of 60 top dairy herds in three Illinois counties indicates that the milking machine may be causing more problems than it should--mainly because machines on many farms are not in good repair.

Speaking here today before the annual meeting of the American Dairy Science Association, U. of I. dairy scientists Leo Fryman and Jack Albright said vacuum pumps and pulsators were causing most of the milking machine problems.

Vacuum pumps were giving adequate vacuum reserve on fewer than half of the farms surveyed. Pulsators were working properly on only 49 percent of the farms.

Some of the vacuum pumps were too small for the number of milker units used. Others were worn badly, not running fast enough, or connected to vacuum lines with leaky stallcocks or vacuum regulators.

The survey showed that dairymen who were using the manufacturer's recommendations as a standard were doing a satisfactory job of handling the machines. Others were having problems.

The U. of I. scientists noted a direct relationship between the condition of many milking machines and the type of field service offered by the manufacturer's representative in the area.

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Some vacuum pumps needed as long as 35 seconds to return vacuum level on the line to normal when the milking unit was moved from one cow to another. The recommended time is no more than two seconds. Also, many vacuum pumps did not give adequate vacuum when all units were operating.

Fryman said larger vacuum reserve tanks or larger vacuum lines would have helped to correct the vacuum problem on many farms. Straight vacuum lines also might have helped. Many lines were hampered by elbows and small obstructions.

Checks of pulsator action with a vacuum recorder showed that only half of the pulsators were working properly.

Problem pulsators were dirty, worn or needed oil. A few were in such bad shape that the ends of the cow's teats were under constant vacuum--a problem that could lead to serious udder trouble.

Milking machine inflations made a better showing, mainly because most dairymen were careful with them. About 81 percent of the inflations inspected were rated good, very good or excellent.

About three of every four dairymen in the survey bought two or more sets of new inflations each year. Twenty-three percent bought inflations at three-month intervals.

Fryman said 18 percent of the dairymen had two sets of inflations on hand. One set rested for a week or more while the second set was in use. Most dairymen boiled the inflations in a lye solution to remove fat deposits before they were put into dry storage. This helped to prolong the life of the rubber.

The U. of I. survey centered around 60 high-producing dairy herds in Vermilion, McHenry and Madison counties--three of the top dairy counties in the state.

The farm adviser in each county selected the herds studied to give a representative sample of the better dairy herds in each area.

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HDN:dl
6/11/62

FOR RELEASE TUESDAY P.M., JUNE 19, 1962

onth Of Calving Can Affect ilk Yields In Dairy Cows

COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND--A recent University of Illinois study f nearly 9,000 dairy herd improvement association cows shows that onth of calving can have some effect on a dairy cow's milk production, ccording to U. of I. dairy scientist Ralph Johnson.

Speaking today before the 57th annual meeting of the American airy Science Association, Johnson said Holstein cows calving in De-ember, January and February had highest milk production in 274-day actations with an average of 11,101 pounds.

Holsteins calving in June, July and August average 9,193 pounds o show lowest production. Similar results were observed for three ther dairy breeds.

On a herd basis, month of calving accounted for about one ercent of the milk yield difference, Johnson explained. More specif-ically, month of calving within a herd accounted for 0.67 percent of the total yield variation, and age at calving accounted for 3.82 per-ent.

Johnson said yield variation between cows of the same age roup calving in the same month accounted for 95.6 percent of the total variation in the herds surveyed.

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HDN:dl
6/11/62

FOR RELEASE THURSDAY P.M., JUNE 21, 1962

UI Dairy Study Shows Amount Of Hay Consumed More Important Than Nutritive Value

COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND--Cutting hay at the stage of maturity that promotes maximum consumption is more important to dairy cow performance than the nutritive value of the hay, according to University of Illinois dairy scientist J. H. Byers.

Speaking here today at the annual meeting of the American Dairy Science Association, Byers pointed out that dairy cows like hay cut in the bud stage better than hay cut in the later stages of development. And, because cows find bud-stage hay more palatable, they eat more of it.

Byers cited a recent U. of I. study in which cows ate 2.31 pounds of bud-stage hay per 100 pounds of body weight and produced 41.2 pounds of fat-corrected milk daily.

Under the Latin square design of the study--which gives all cows under test equal time with each type of hay--the same cows ate 2.18 pounds of first-cutting, 3/4-bloom hay per day and produced 40.8 pounds of milk daily.

Cows receiving second-cutting, 3/4-bloom hay ate only 1.71 pounds per 100 pounds of body weight, and milk production dropped to 35.1 pounds of milk daily.

Byers said the study indicates that hay consumption accounted for about 2/3 of the difference in performance among the cows and nutritive value accounted for 1/3 of the performance difference.

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6/11/62

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Look Ahead, Says State FFA Adviser

URBANA--A dynamic agriculture creates many new and different job opportunities, said Herbert R. Damisch, Illinois FFA adviser, at the 34th annual state Future Farmers convention in Chicago last week.

Damisch, who is also chief of agricultural education in Illinois, admonished FFA members to decide on an occupation as early as possible. He emphasized that choice of occupation should be an individual decision.

Farm boys should consider the changing agricultural picture. As the size of farm increases, the number of farmers decrease. "According to many estimates," says Damisch, "there are four to six career opportunities in related agricultural areas for each job in farming."

More, not less, education will be needed in the future. Damisch cited a study by the American Economic Review that reveals the earning power of the 1958 college graduate to be about 70 percent more than that of a 1958 high school graduate.

These remarks were made to a record-breaking number of FFA'ers attending the convention. Three hundred sixty-three high school chapters and 1,927 FFA boys and their advisers registered for the three-day convention, held in Chicago for the first time.

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6/11/62
NO

FOR RELEASE THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1962

U. S. Agricultural System Unrivaled In World History

DEKALB--It is no accident that the American people are the best fed, the best sheltered and the best clothed people in the world's history.

Instead, it is the result of a carefully designed system, according to Dr. J. B. Claar, associate director of the Cooperative Extension Service of the University of Illinois.

Claar spoke here today at a celebration commemorating the 50th anniversary of the founding of the DeKalb County Farm Bureau, first in the United States.

"The year 1912 is certainly an important one in Illinois history," Claar said. "That was the year two Illinois counties formed an organization to help conduct an educational program for the people in agriculture and home economics at the county level. One of them, and the first to do so, was DeKalb county.

"These two county associations worked together with the College of Agriculture of the University of Illinois in carrying on what was to become one of the most significant educational programs in the world."

This year, 1962, is also the centennial year of both the land-grant college system and the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Claar pointed out. Over the years these two institutions have felt keenly their responsibility to discover new information that would be of value in improving the food production and distribution system in the United States.

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"We can take special pride in celebrating the land-grant centennial, because Illinois played a key role in the formation of the land-grant college system. J. B. Turner of Jacksonville is credited with being the originator of the idea, and President Abraham Lincoln signed it into law," he stated.

"In view of the vision shown by these great Illinois leaders who played key roles in developing the land-grant institutions, it is perhaps not too surprising that Illinois also led the way 50 years later in establishing this teamwork of the University and local citizens in carrying forward the extension program."

This day that we commemorate, June 14, 1912, Claar said, is significant in that it started what later was to become Farm Bureau in DeKalb county, and through the employment of the first farm adviser was the forerunner of what two years later was to become the Extension Service. The date is also significant because it is the forerunner of a movement that was to spread across the country.

As this innovation was extended to every county in the U. S., it has had great impact on the development and course of our nation, Claar stated. Through their influence on the development of today's dynamic agricultural industry, such organizations as the Cooperative Extension Service and the Farm Bureau have contributed much to our nation's development and to the achievement of national goals.

Passage of the Smith-Lever Act in 1914 established and enduring basis for the cooperation of the U.S.D.A., the land-grant Universities and the local people in financing and carrying forward the Extension program. With the passage of this federal legislation, the pattern that had been developed in DeKalb and a few other counties became the format for extending the program to the rest of the state.

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"Extension administration in Illinois established, as one of the requirements for placing extension work in a county, that a local group be organized to help finance and direct the work," the associate extension director said. "State extension staff members helped organize farm bureaus, as these local organizations were called, to be the local sponsor of the extension program in a great many counties in Illinois."

As agriculture has made a gradual transition from a family supplying mainly its own needs to a highly efficient business, many problems have arisen. Farm Bureau rose to these needs, and through its many affiliates has provided many of the services needed by the expanding agriculture, Claar pointed out.

"Public policies affecting agriculture have become major issues, and Farm Bureau has become a powerful spokesman for agriculture. In responding to these needs, it has changed from an organization that was originally concerned solely with sponsoring a program of practical education for farm people to a powerful and important force in the business and political world. These changes caused extension councils to be set up as the local extension sponsor in 1956 and Extension and Farm Bureau to become separate organizations.

Although Extension and Farm Bureau are two separate organizations today, the county farm bureaus are making two significant contributions to the extension program, Claar said. First, farm bureau members give freely of their time as leaders in the 4-H Club program and as extension council members, and in every way lend their support and leadership to the Extension Service. Second, the county farm

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bureaus contribute more than $800,000 a year as the principal source of local financial support of the extension program in Illinois. These grants are made directly to the University of Illinois and are essential for the conduct of the extension program in the state.

"Extension and Farm Bureau can take pride in their present relationship," Claar said. "It is businesslike and appropriate in every way. Farm Bureau is to be congratulated for its continuing interest in and concern for education in Illinois and for its efforts to help solve the problems of agriculture.

"Extension, working with all organizations and groups in the state for the benefit of agriculture, hopes to continue to serve the people of Illinois with the same dedication in the future that has characterized its activities in the past."

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RAJ:dl
6/11/62
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 18, 1962

'Think Safe," Reduce Haying Mishaps

Operating modern hay-making power machinery demands know-how, good judgment and common sense--if Illinois farmers are to have a safe haying season this year, says University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett.

With the present widespread use of balers and field choppers, safe practices are a must. Hogsett says that hay harvesting claims more lives than the harvest of any other crop. Balers, field choppers and mowing machines are frequently involved.

Following a few simple rules will make haying a lot safer. Always shut off the power before cleaning, oiling or adjusting any power-driven machine. Keep the power take-off and all other safety shields in place--they are put there for your protection.

Do not permit extra passengers on tractor or loaded hay wagons. Falls from wagons, mows, silos and stacks are far too frequent, Hogsett points out.

Handle your tractor with care, particularly on public roads and in raking and mowing where higher operation speeds are used. Packing silage in trench silos with tractors has proved highly hazardous. Operators should be well qualified and aware of the danger.

Pitchforks and hay hooks must always be handled with care.

Hay safely. Don't add to the accident toll this year.

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JJF:dl
6/20/62
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 25, 1962

Use Care With Insecticides

Dusting or spraying with insecticides promotes the growth of fruits and vegetables. But it often has just the opposite effect on people--if the material is used carelessly.

To be on the safe side, says University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett, take special precautions when using fumigants. Never breathe the fumes, vapor or dust. If possible, pick a day when there is no wind. With some sprays and dusts, a safety mask is required.

Keep insecticides in original containers, which give label directions and antidotes. Keep them out of reach of children.

Follow directions for handling, mixing and applying, Hogsett cautions. If you must spray on a windy day, do so with the wind, and wear a respirator when there's a danger of inhaling fumes. Wear gloves, a long-sleeved shirt and other clothing to cover as much skin area as you can.

When you have finished spraying, carefully wash your hands and other exposed parts of your body with soap and water. Store poisonous materials in a safe place.

Before you eat fruits and vegetables that have been sprayed or dusted, wash them thoroughly.

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JJF:dl
6/20/62
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 2, 1962

Tall Crops Create Safety Hazard

Tall crops, trees, bushes and weeds that block vision create a serious traffic hazard at this time of year.

University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett says these obstructions make it impossible for drivers traveling on the highway to see farm vehicles about to enter the road.

Hogsett suggests learning how to figure "sight distance." Here's a procedure recommended by the Illinois Rural Safety Council for finding out what obstructions to remove in order to avoid possible accidents:

1. Park your car in the driveway with the bumper 10 feet from the nearest edge of the pavement or traveled portion of the road.

2. Pace off 700 feet--280 paces--along the highway to the left on the same side as the driveway entrance, and place a marker at the edge of the pavement.

3. By the same procedure, set another marker down the road in the opposite direction, but on the side of the road across from the driveway entrance. If a heavy, slow-starting truck will be using the driveway, set the markers out 830 feet, or 332 paces, instead of 700 feet.

4. Go back to your car and sit in the driver's seat. If you can't see the markers, clear any obstructions away until you can see them.

Even though "sight distance" is adequate at your farm entrance, always make a full stop and look both ways before you enter the highway.

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JJF:jd
6/27/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 2, 1962

Petroleum Vapor Can be Dangerous

It's the vapors that burn. But to burn, says University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett, petroleum vapors must be mixed with air. And production of flammable vapors depends on the temperature.

For example, gasoline gives off flammable vapors at temperatures as low as 45 degrees below zero. Kerosene must be heated to 110 degrees F., while lubricating oil releases flammable vapors only after the temperatures reach the 400-degree mark.

So, to use petroleum products safely, all you need to remember is that it's the vapors that burn. Never refuel a tractor or other motor when it's running or extremely hot. Sparks can ignite the vapors. Avoid overfilling and leave room for the fuel to expand as it warms. Avoid spilling, and allow spilled fuel to dry before starting the engine.

Store flammable liquids outside. If they must be used indoors, always handle them in a safety can. Most safety cans have a spring-closed cover to prevent escape of vapors. But, says Hogsett, don't use containers larger than one gallon. Label the can "gasoline," paint it red and never use it for anything else. Then store it out of the reach of children.

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JJF:jd
6/27/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 9, 1962

Check Your LP Gas Installation

Like all other fuels, LP gas must be stored and handled right if you're going to get the safest, most satisfactory results, says University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett. If you want to know whether your installation is the best possible, look at the "code."

The "code" is a pamphlet on the safe storage and handling of liquefied petroleum gas, published by the National Board of Fire Underwriters. The rules it sets forth have been accepted as law in Illinois.

Every LP gas dealer and fire insurance company inspector should have a copy of the code book. If your dealer has done a good, safe installation job, he won't mind checking your system against the code. If he doesn't know the code, call your fire insurance company inspector. As a starter, check the location of your tank. If it holds between 125 and 500 gallons, it must be 10 feet from any important buildings. A tank holding from 500 to 2,000 gallons should be 25 feet from buildings. If you transfer the gas into a tractor or other tank, the job should be done at least 50 feet from buildings.

These rules are set up to protect LP gas users. Be sure your system is safely installed. It may prevent an expensive fire or even save your life.

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JJF:dl
7/3/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 23, 1962

Electrical Wiring Needs Frequent Inspection

Check your electrical wiring frequently to prevent trouble from short circuits.

O. L. Hogsett, extension safety specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, says you should replace a broken insulator as soon as you find one. Check your wiring regularly for loose connections, especially on grounding circuits.

Tighten outside service wires if they are loose enough for the wind to wrap them around each other or to whip them. Never let tree limbs grow through or around electrical wiring. Call you local power company or cooperative to get a qualified person to trim the tree.

If you get a shock when you throw a light switch or turn on an appliance, there is something wrong with your system. Check, find the trouble and fix it immediately.

Unless you are qualified, do not attempt to make electrical repairs yourself. Call a reliable electrician who is trained and equipped to handle electricity safely.

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OLH:EEW:kb
7/18/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 8, 1962

Water Systems Can Help Fight Fires

In case of fire, will your water system be ready to help you fight it?

If your answer is "no" or "maybe," it might pay you to make some changes. Farmers especially need a good water system to control a fire until the fire department arrives, warns O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois extension safety specialist.

Most common cause of water system failure at the time of a fire is a failure of the wiring system to the pump, Hogsett says. If the lines carrying electricity to the pump are broken or burned through, you can't fight a fire.

The best way to avoid such failure is to make the pump's power supply independent. If your meter is on a pole, run a separate circuit from the meter pole to the pump pit or house, keeping it away from buildings.

If your meter is on the house, perhaps you should replan your farmstead wiring. A central distribution pole will probably help you get more uses from the electricity. And it will be easier to run an independent circuit to your pumps.

Your local power company service engineer can help you plan to modernize your wiring system.

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JJF:dl
8/8/62

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Annual Meeting Of Illinois FBFM Service, September 7

The 5,740 member Illinois Farm Bureau Farm Management Association will hold its 13th annual meeting, September 7 at the University of Illinois, Urbana.

D. F. Wilken, U. of I. farm management specialist and association executive secretary, reports that the meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. in Room 135 Animal Sciences Laboratory.

The main business will be election of new officers, financial and committee reports. Officers this past year have been Byron Thier, West Brooklyn, president; Kenneth Zellers, Mount Morris, vice-president; and Francis Swearingen, Melvin, secretary-treasurer. Keith Amstutz, Forrest, is business manager.

Voting delegates have been selected by local associations but all members are welcome to attend the meeting. The business meeting will adjourn by noon so that visitors may see the Farm and Home Science Show in progress on the campus and research farms Friday and Saturday, September 7 and 8.

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8/8/62
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 20, 1962

Illinois All-Industry Poultry Day, September 7

Illinois poultrymen will have an opportunity to hear the latest research developments in their field and attend the University of Illinois Farm and Home Science Show, according to U. of I. extension poultryman H. S. Johnson.

The 15th annual Illinois All-Industry Poultry Day will start at 9:30 a.m. September 7 at 62 Krannert Art Museum on the U. of I. campus. The program will conclude with a question-and-answer panel composed of speakers appearing on the program. These speakers will cover a range of topics, including fly control, good housing on poultry farms, credit for commercial egg producers, control of CRD and an appraisal of the egg marketing situation.

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JJF:kb
8/15/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 20, 1962

Choose Grass Seed Carefully

URBANA--Whether you're establishing a new lawn or renovating an old one, choose your grass seed carefully, advises University of Illinois lawn specialist J. D. Butler.

Lawns sowed now--mid-August in the northern part of the state to mid-September in the southern part of the state--should develop a dense stand before cold weather, provided the grass is adapted to the area. The following grasses are generally adapted in Illinois:

Kentucky bluegrass does well in a fairly rich, well-drained soil. It won't tolerate close clipping or dense shade. It makes good early growth but becomes semidormant in midsummer. It is relatively resistant to leaf rust, but may be severely injured by leaf spot diseases.

Merion bluegrass is well adapted to northern and central Illinois. Soil requirements are about the same as for Kentucky bluegrass. But Merion is more drouth-resistant, grows better in the summer and will stand closer mowing than Kentucky bluegrass. Merion is susceptible to rust infection but is less susceptible than Kentucky bluegrass to some other diseases.

Chewings and creeping red fescue both have stiff, wiry leaves, making them hard to mow but suited for playgrounds. Fescues grow best in well-drained, highly fertile soil with a pH above 6. They will grow on drouthy soil, and both do well in the shade. But they don't thrive when clipped to less than 1 1/4 inches, or in poorly drained soils. They are rather susceptible to leaf spot or blight diseases, which cause dead areas in the turf.

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Colonial bentgrass grows rapidly and does well in summer when Kentucky bluegrass and fescues slow down. It crowds out weeds during the summer and withstands close clipping. But it starts growing late and stops early, it needs high moisture and fertility, it requires persistent clipping and it is susceptible to brown patch, dollar spot and other grass diseases.

Meyer Zoysia makes a dense turf that crowds out weeds. But it's a warm-weather grass that turns straw-colored with the first freeze and stays brown until late spring. It takes Zoysia two years to completely cover under favorable conditions. It is propagated by sprigs or plugs.

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JJF:kb
8/15/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 20, 1962

Illinois Farm Management Tours Scheduled

URBANA--Three outstanding farms have been selected for district farm management tours this year, D. F. Wilken, University of Illinois farm management specialist, reports.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS. On August 30 at 10 a.m., the Welsh Brothers, 5 miles east and 1 mile north of Marshall, will serve as hosts. Visitors will see a 560-acre hog and poultry farm. These operators farrow 22 litters every two months in individual houses and finish them in confinement. They also handle 1,800 laying hens. They use an automatic feed-grinding and mix mill. The Welsh Brothers are now building a poultry house for 5,000 hens with slatted floor over a lagoon, and an automatic egg collection and feed-handling system that will be in operation August 30.

On a Cisne silt loam soil, they have averaged 101 bushels of corn an acre for the past three years. They have converted their ear corn crib to shelled corn and also use heat units in steel bins for drying 2,500 to 3,000 bushels of corn a day. This efficient operation produces one-third more output per man and provides three times more net profit than farms of similar size and type.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS. On September 4, tours will be conducted at the Jakob Brothers farm 5 miles south of Milledgeville and the Dean Butterbaugh farm 9 miles east and 1 mile north of Rock Falls. The Butterbaugh tour starts at 10 a.m.; the Jakob Brothers tour starts at 1:30 p.m.

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The Jakob Brothers handle 150 Holstein cows on 170 acres. Through high crop yields and good feed conversion, they are getting three times as much gross income with only twice as much cost as the average 160-acre dairy farm. They use a double-10 herringbone milking parlor--the only one of its kind in Illinois--and milk the cows in 2 1/2 hours. On the day of the tour, the Jakob Brothers will milk at 4 p.m. so that visitors will be able to see the "double-10" in action. They have an auger bunk for feeding oats and corn silage, a 30 by 80 foot hay feeder for chopped hay, and they also feed baled hay. These operators came from the Netherlands and have developed this operation since 1957.

On the Butterbaugh farm, visitors will see an example of a former two-man farm converted into a one-man operation. On 240 acres, Butterbaugh maintains high crop production efficiency and also feeds out 150 feeder calves and 600-800 feeder pigs each year.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS. On September 5, Russell Jeckel, at the northeast edge of Delavan, will serve as host. On his 215-acre farm, visitors will see an intensive hog operation farrowing 40 litters a month. He has lagoons for manure disposal and uses on-the-farm feed mixing. He has a new house equipped with slatted floors and automatic limited feeding for a complete farrow-to-finish program. Jeckel has weaned an average of 7.8 pigs per litter and grossed about three times as much income with only twice the cost of the average hog enterprise. Visitors may join tour groups starting at regular intervals from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. The tour takes 3 1/2 hours.

These tours are sponsored by the Illinois Farm Bureau Farm Management Service in cooperation with the University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service. All interested persons are invited. Luncheon reservations for the central and southern Illinois tours can be made with the local farm adviser or by writing to D. F. Wilken, 450 Mumford Hall, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois.

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HDG:JJF:kb
8/15/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 20, 1962

Displays Tell How Veterinary Medicine Affects Public

URBANA--The story of how veterinary medicine affects the American public--from the meat consumed to the space program--will be told in displays presented at the Farm and Home Science Show September 7-8 at the University of Illinois.

One exhibit will feature equipment used to measure body functions of animals used in Project Mercury and other space programs. Another will feature two common zoonoses, tuberculosis and brucellosis. Zoonoses are diseases that can be transmitted from animal to man and vice versa.

In order to study zoonoses and other types of diseases, scientists have recently developed animals free from germs and disease. Disease-free mice, living in their germ-free housing units, will be displayed.

Another highlight will be an exhibit covering medical discoveries made by University of Illinois veterinary researchers during the past 60 years. These "firsts" include the development of an antitoxin for botulism; the practice of fumigating incubators with formaldehyde to kill germs without harming newly hatched chicks and the development of an egg test for diagnosing Newcastle disease. More recently, U. of I. veterinarians have developed a diagnostic test for anaplasmosis, a disease that is becoming more prevalent in Illinois cattle.

Still another display features one of the medical benefits from radio isotopes, used for research or in diagnosing and treating certain diseases.

A relatively new technique for taking electronic recordings of blood pressure directly from the heart will be demonstrated on a cow.

Other displays include diseases in small animals, services offered by the College of Veterinary Medicine, the scientific inspection of meat and poultry and careers in veterinary medicine.

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NO
8/15/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 27, 1962

Quarantine For Hog Cholera Begins Sept. 1

Quarantine regulations for herds suspected of having hog cholera will be enforced by the Division of Livestock Industry after September 1, according to Dr. R. A. Thompson, superintendent of the Division of Livestock Industry of the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

The attending veterinarian or a representative from the Division will post a quarantine sign at the entrance of each infected premise, According to quarantine regulations, the livestock owner will receive a permit enabling him to ship marketable hogs directly to the slaughtering plant. Twenty-one days after the last death from hog cholera, the attending veterinarian will release the quarantine.

In explaining why a quarantine is necessary, Dr. J. R. Pickard, University of Illinois extension veterinarian, emphasized that it is the only way to prevent hog cholera from spreading. Dr. Pickard is chairman of the subcommittee on education for the Illinois Hog Cholera Eradication Committee.

"Quarantine regulations are designed to protect the neighboring farmers who own healthy livestock," Dr. Pickard said. "These regulations also give the livestock owner a chance to eradicate the disease on his farm--by properly disposimg of dead animals and thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting his premises."

People who do not comply with these regulations are subject to penalties provided by law, Dr. Pickard said. Herd owners or veterinarians who do not report suspected outbreaks of hog cholera or who are responsible for spreading the disease will be subject to the maximum penalty.

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CP:dl
8/22/62
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 27, 1962

U. Of I. Extramural Courses Scheduled

A University of Illinois extramural program this fall will make college courses in agriculture available in Marion, Decatur, Paris, Effingham and Henry.

The following schedule has been announced by Associate Dean Karl E. Gardner, College of Agriculture:

Marion--Agr. Eng. E331, Function, Application, Adjustment and Management of Farm Machinery. First class meets Saturday, September 15, 8:30 a.m., in the high school.

Decatur--Agr. Econ. E305, Agricultural Policies and Programs. First class meets Thursday, September 20, 7:30 p.m., in the Stephen Decatur High School.

Paris--Agr. Econ. E332, Livestock Marketing. This class will be held in the high school beginning Tuesday, September 18, 6:30 p.m.

Effingham--Agron. E306, Fertilizers and Their Soil Reactions. Course begins Wednesday, September 19, 6:30 p.m., in the high school.

Henry--Plant Pathology E377, Diseases of Field Crops. First class will meet Friday, September 14, 7:00 p.m., in the high school.

A total enrollment of 15 is necessary in order to continue the course. If another time seems more appropriate to the group, such change can be arranged at the first class meeting.

For additional information, write Associate Dean Karl E. Gardner, College of Agriculture, University of Illinois, Urbana.

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/22/62
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 27, 1962

Let Millers Do Blending--
Plant Soft Or Hard Wheat

Soft and hard red winter wheat may be blended for the manufacture of some products, but the blending should be done by millers rather than Illinois farmers, University of Illinois agronomist W. O. Scott cautioned here today.

Illinois farmers plant both soft red and hard red winter wheat, but generally soft wheat is grown in southern Illinois. Hard red winter wheat is grown in the central and northern sections of the state. And since the two kinds of wheat are prepared differently for milling--and are milled as pure soft or pure hard wheat--millers discount mixtures of the two. It's physically impossible to segregate them at the elevator in the rush of harvest, Scott points out. So before planting, it would pay Illinois farmers to check with their neighbors and plant the same type. There are several good varieties of either type to choose from, the agronomist advises.

Of the soft wheat varieties, Scott recommends Monon. It has excellent straw strength and leaf rust and Hessian fly resistance. The plant is 2 to 3 inches shorter and matures about a day earlier than Knox. Monon is susceptible to loose smut but doesn't smut so badly as Knox and Dual. Other recommended soft wheat varieties are Knox and Vermillion, which are short and early, and Dual, which is tall and a little later in maturing. Its resistance to Hessian fly makes Dual a good bet for fall pasture, since farmers can plant it before the fly-free date.

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Farmers living in the hard wheat regions of the state have two new hard red winter wheats this year, Scott advises. Ottawa and Omaha will be commercially available for the first time. They should replace Pawnee, Ponca and Triumph, Scott predicts. Both Ottawa and Omaha have mosaic resistance superior to that of present hard wheat varieties, which should make them well worth trying, he states.

Both the new varieties compare with Pawnee in maturity and height. Ottawa has Hessian fly resistance and better lodging resistance than any hard wheat now grown in Illinois, says Scott. Both Ottawa and Omaha yield as well as Pawnee. And both of the new varieties rate better on the sedimentation test than existing Illinois hard red winter varieties, he adds.

But whether soft or hard red winter wheat fits into the individual community, Scott recommends buying certified seed if possible and treating seed before planting. If certified seed is not available, use clean seed that has been tested for germination and mechanical purity, he advises.

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JJF:dl
8/22/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 27, 1962

Avoid Fertilizer Burn On Lawns

High-nitrogen fertilizers may burn lawn grass if used improperly, causing unsightly discoloration or occasionally killing the grass where severe burning occurs, cautions University of Illinois lawn specialist J. D. Butler.

So when you're fertilizing your lawn, check the source of nitrogen in the fertilizer you intend to use. Butler says ammonium sulfate, ammonium nitrate, urea and inorganic high-nitrogen complete fertilizers are most likely to cause foliage burn. Such fertilizers, as an organic material or urea-form are non-burning unless applied at exceptionally high rates.

To avoid fertilizer burn, Butler makes these recommendations:

1. Follow instructions as nearly as possible for recommended rates and methods of application.
2. Apply fertilizer only when the grass is dry.
3. Spread the fertilizer as carefully and evenly as possible.
4. Avoid spilling or overlapping the fertilizer.
5. Use pelleted or granular fertilizer, which will roll off dry foliage and reduce the likelihood of burning.
6. Water the grass after fertilizing. Watering washes off the fertilizer and reduces the chance of burning.

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JJF:dl
8/22/62
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 3, 1962

Chemicals May Reduce Yields

Weedy soybean fields can be a real problem at harvest time. But using defoliants to cause leaf drop or desiccants for plant drying may also reduce soybean yields, cautions University of Illinois agronomist Ellery Knake.

Research at the U. of I. shows that chemicals applied early enough to cause leaf drop--one percent of the leaves were yellow--also reduced the yield 11 bushels. Even when 75 percent of the leaves were yellow, chemicals reduced the yield five bushels per acre. The test showed no yield reduction only when half of the leaves had dropped or when the plant was mature. Apparently plant food material still moves out of the leaves and into the seed even a few days before maturity, says Knake.

Farmers could still apply weed-drying chemicals after the crop matures. But this method would mean an extra field operation, a possible harvest delay and increased field losses of beans. Even if the chemical dried up some weeds, much of the plant would remain to cause trouble. Chemicals do not rid the farmer of large, stiff stems and weed seed like velvetleaf and pigweed. Desiccants may remove some of the moisture from grasses like foxtail, but the wiry stems still remain. So it's doubtful that desiccants used for drying weeds in soybeans would benefit the farmer sufficiently to repay him for the expense of using them, Knake advises.

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The best way to avoid weed trouble at combining time is to use good cultural practices like rotary hoeing and cultivating combined with pre-emergence herbicides. If farmers control the early weeds, late weeds are seldom a problem, Knake points out.

Defoliants cause leaf drop. Desiccants cause plant drying but do not necessarily involve leaf drop. Most of them do not have label approval for soybeans used for food or feed, so check label for approval as well as rates if chemicals are used. The commonly used weed-drying chemicals include calcium cyanamide, magnesium chlorate, sodium chlorate, endothal, DNBP--dinitro--and PCP--penta--Knake says.

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JJF:dl
8/29/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 17, 1962

Dairy Records Calculated Electronically

Weigh-a-Day-a-Month dairymen are the latest group to join the growing list of Illinois farmers using milk production records calculated by complex, high-speed, electronic computers at the University of Illinois.

Clinton county dairy farmers began using the central processing system of calculating WADAM milk production records in May. Records for more than 1,000 cows were being calculated by July, when dairymen in Mason, Tazewell and Washington counties also transferred to the modern electronic record-keeping system.

U. of I. extension dairy scientist Ralph Johnson says the new WADAM record-keeping procedures are similar to the ones dairymen are used to. The farmer weighs the milk from each cow on the 15th of each month and records production data and dry and freshening dates on a barn sheet. He then mails the barn sheet to his county farm adviser.

However, the adviser no longer processes the information in his office. Instead, he mails the data to the U. of I. Dairy Extension Office, where they are checked for completeness and accuracy. They are then delivered to the Statistical Service Unit, where the records are punched into cards and processed by the electronic computer.

Completed records go back to the county farm adviser, who mails them to herd owners. Each dairyman receives a typewritten herd report which lists production data for the current month and the total lactation for each cow. Also, monthly and annual herd averages are printed on the sheet each month.

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Johnson says the county farm adviser receives a report showing the average milk production for the current month as well as the most recent 12-month annual average for each herd in the county.

There is a charge for calculating records electronically. It costs a nickel a cow a month for dairymen to see which cows in their herds are making money and which are just along for a ride.

Johnson believes the central processing system of calculating WADAM records will make it possible to greatly expand the record-keeping program in Illinois. Interested dairymen can contact their county farm adviser for details.

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HDN:cm
9/12/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 24, 1962

DHIA Processing Center Is Big Hit With Dairymen

The Dairy Herd Improvement Association record-processing center in Urbana is fast becoming a big hit among Illinois dairymen.

University of Illinois dairy scientist Gary Harpestad says the processing center's giant electronic computer is keeping track of production records for more than 1,400 of the state's dairymen.

About three-fourths of all dairy production records in the state are now calculated at the processing center. Weigh-a-Day-a-Month dairymen are the latest group to join the program.

Clinton county dairy farmers began using the central processing system of calculating WADAM milk production records in May. Records for more than 1,000 cows were being calculated by July, when dairymen im Mason, Tazewell and Washington counties also transferred to the modern electronic record-keeping system.

Harpestad says the center's 1401-IBM electronic computer can easily turn out monthly records at a rate of 300 per minute. He believes the computer will eventually handle records for all of the cows on test in Illinois.

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HDN:dl
9/18/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 24, 1962

Avoid Combine Accidents

URBANA--Illinois farmers will harvest a record acreage of soybeans this year--combines are already rolling into fields of early beans--and accidents during harvest could cost farmers money, time or even their lives, warns University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett.

Some simple adjustments and repairs before going into the field, made each morning while beans aren't dry enough to cut, will lessen chances of an accident as well as prolong the life of the combine.

Be sure all shields and guards are in place, Hogsett urges. Open moving parts are always dangerous. Shields are put there for protection.

If repairs or adjustments must be made in the field, shut off "everything," Hogsett cautions. No one realizes how fast moving parts can pull a person into a machine. And don't try to clean out a machine when it's running, he adds. This causes many accidents every year. This year's no exception.

Rainy weather--common during the fall--causes accidents, too. Shields and smooth metal surfaces on machinery become slick and may cause a serious accident. Muddy fields increase chances of slipping or skidding that may result in operator injury.

Hurrying seldom gains much total time...and inevitably leads to carelessness. This is the time when an accident is most likely to occur, Hogsett points out.

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Long hours and constant rushing cause excessive operator fatigue. It's natural for a tired person to become careless and impatient. To reduce fatigue and accidents, it's wise to trade drivers every two or three hours, says Hogsett. A fresh driver will always be more cautious, and he'll react faster than a tired one, he adds.

Clothes and shoes can cause accidents. Avoid loose, flopping sleeves and trouser legs that may easily catch in something, advises Hogsett. A leather sole on a slick surface can be disastrous. A rubber-soled shoe has much more grip on a metal surface.

And a word to the wives of combining husbands--send them to the field in a good mood. Happy, alert husbands, full of energy from a hearty breakfast, will have fewer harvesting accidents. As an added precaution, insist that "your man" take a break at mid-morning and mid-afternoon, advises Hogsett.

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JJF:mc
9/19/62
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 1, 1962

Note to Editor: October 7-13 is National Fire Prevention Week.

Fire Safety Training Saves Lives

Last year fire claimed the lives of almost 12,000 Americans. More than half of these deaths occurred in dwellings, and four out of five of the victims were children under 15.

O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois extension safety specialist, warns rural families of the need for fire emergency training.

For your family's safety, plan at least two escape routes from every room in your house, and go over the details with every member of the family. You can use garage and porch roofs, ladders and even trees to escape from the upper floors of your house.

In the event of fire get everyone out of the house. Don't stop to dress the children or save your valuables. If you are awakened by smoke, crawl along the floor and feel for an exit. Before opening the door feel it first; if it is hot, keep it closed and get out another way or wait for help. A closed wooden door will keep fire and smoke out of the room for several minutes.

Once outside of the house beware of re-entering. Even the smallest, most harmless looking fire can give off deadly smoke and fumes.

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JEL:dl
9/26/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 1, 1962

Harvest Safety Tips

With the soybean harvest in full swing across Illinois, D. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois extension safety specialist, urges farm workers to remember, "Harvest time is safety time."

Many farmers get into such a hurry during harvest that they fail to take the necessary caution. But you can save yourself and your pocketbook by following these simple safety rules:

1. Always be alert--never take a chance.
2. Keep all shields and safety guards in place.
3. Stop all machines before unclogging, greasing or adjusting them.
4. Don't wear loose or ragged clothing around machines.
5. Always operate your tractor at a safe speed, and be extra careful in driving tractors and other machines on highways.
6. Keep small children away from harvesting machines.
7. Do not jump off equipment while it is moving.
8. Obey traffic rules and signs, and use headlights and taillights at night.

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JEL:dl
9/26/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

JNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 8, 1962

The Human Element vs. Corn Picker

With corn picking already started, most farmers are looking to a successful season.

Some farmers, however, will violate safe harvesting practices and will suffer a shocking calamity--the loss of a limb or perhaps even death, says O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois safety specialist.

Many operators lose arms and legs in a picker after almost being injured on previous occasions. Apparently they think they can always stop just short of injury.

Last year over 200 Illinois farmers disproved this theory. They were killed or injured seriously by their own corn pickers.

They didn't realize that a modern corn picker can whisk a 10-foot stalk through its snapping rolls in one second--or, just as fast, a hand before its owner can let go.

Its husking rolls can snatch an object thinner than cigarette paper--or, just as efficiently, they can grab a worn glove, a torn coat sleeve or even a ragged pants cuff.

Husking rolls, snapping rolls, gathering chains, power take-off shafts, elevators, belts and gears are all dangerous. No other farm machine combines so many potentially dangerous moving parts.

It is true that the manufacturer, the designer and the safety engineer can and will help, but their combined efforts can be wiped out by a single careless act of the operator.

The answer to this crippling menace is so simple that most of us fail to realize it: Stop the machine before you attempt to unclog, grease or adjust it. A machine doesn't reach out and grab you; you go to it.

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JEL:dl
10/4/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 8, 1962

Dairymen Operating Too Many Milker Units Can Cause Udder Damage

Adding another milker unit may not be the solution to the problem of milking a herd of cows in less time. In fact, a recent University of Illinois dairy study showed that trying to operate too many units actually can boost the total time needed to milk a herd.

U. of I. dairy scientist Leo Fryman says few men can keep up with more than two bucket-type milker units in a stanchion barn without a pipeline to carry milk. As a result, machines are left on cows too long, possibly causing teat and udder damage and developing slower milking habits in the cows.

The U. of I. survey of milking practices in 64 Illinois herds showed that dairymen with stanchion barns without pipelines were able to milk more cows per hour when one man operated two milker units than when one man tried to keep up with three.

Fryman points out that the men with the two units did not necessarily have better milkers. They simply had more time to develop rapid milking habits in their cows. They carried out definite routines at each milking, handled the cows gently and got the machines off the cows as soon as they were dry.

Fryman says a milk pipeline eliminates the job of carrying milk and allows operators to handle more milker units satisfactorily. Most men can keep up with three units with a pipeline in a stanchion barn or in a parlor.

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HDN:dl
10/4/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 15, 1962

roperty Tax Burden On Farmers Growing

A growing property tax burden on Illinois farms during the 1950s is revealed in a research report just issued at the University of Illinois.

N. G. P. Krausz, professor of agricultural law, reports that property taxes paid on the average northern Illinois farm totaled $1,473 in 1959 compared with $1,136 in 1955. This tax load amounted to about 16 percent of the net income in 1959.

In southern Illinois, property taxes per farm had climbed to $850 in 1959 compared with $625 in 1955. These taxes were equal to about 13 percent of the net income in 1959.

Property taxes took from 3.1 to 5.3 percent of gross income in southern Illinois and 3.7 to 7.5 percent in northern Illinois.

These findings come from a study of 4,500 farms and include both real estate and personal property taxes.

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HDG:dl
10/11/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 15, 1962

Pick, Store, Enjoy Late Tomatoes

Just before Jack Frost really clobbers the backyard garden, pick solid, disease-free green tomatoes and enjoy them in November, urges University of Illinois vegetable crops specialist J. S. Vandemark.

When picking green mature tomatoes for storage, be sure that they're disease free. The foliage should be a good indicator of disease, says Vandemark. If the garden was properly sprayed this summer with a multipurpose chemical, tomatoes should be disease free, he adds.

After picking tomatoes, wrap them in newspaper or other paper, and let them ripen in a room or garage. Hold the temperature at 60 degrees F. if possible.

Using this method, homemakers should be able to have good-quality tomatoes--as good as those on the market--until mid-November, says Vandemark.

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JJF:dl
10/11/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Clean Up, Compost Garden Refuse

Now that it's time to clean up vegetable gardens, consider a compost pile, advises University of Illinois vegetable crops specialist J. S. Vandemark. A compost pile not only gets rid of crop residues, but supplies organic matter for the home garden or flower bed. And where land filling around surburban homes is common, tight clay soils need all the organic matter they can get.

In addition to garden residue, you can use tree leaves and grass clippings. But stay away from table scraps, Vandemark advises. They cause offensive odors and attract flies.

A shady corner or a spot back of shrubs--pick a level spot--makes an ideal location for a compost pile. For the average home gardener, a 3 by 12 or 6 by 6 foot pile will handle most of the vegetable refuse. Put in 6 to 8 inches of leafy material, 2 to 3 pounds of 10-10-10 or similar fertilizer, a "sprinkle" of finely ground limestone and some soil to hold everything in place. Repeat this process as long as the material lasts. Adding fertilizer hastens decomposition and adds to the fertility value of the compost.

Early next spring, turn over the compost once or twice. Be sure the top is level so that moisture will penetrate evenly. The resulting compost makes a good soil conditioner, says Vandemark.

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JJF:dl
10/18/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 29, 1962

Prairie State Also Has Vast Forest Resources

Illinois has been known as the Prairie State for so long that few people, even Illinoisans themselves, realize the vast amount of forested land the state contains.

University of Illinois extension forester L. B. Culver points out that forest resources occupy 11 percent of the state's total land area. That's nearly four million acres. If all the timber areas in the state were grouped together, they would cover 22 of the state's smallest counties.

Although an 11 percent timber area may sound large for Illinois, it's a vast drop from the acres of timber the Indians enjoyed. According to best estimates, the Illinois forests, as the Indians knew them, took up about 40 percent of the state.

Illinois forest lands are concentrated mainly in the southern one-third of the state, stands elsewhere being largely distributed on rough land near creeks and rivers.

Of course, state forests, state parks, county forest preserves and wildlife refuges account for a part of the state's forested land, Culver explains. But, surprisingly, about 90 percent of all Illinois timber is in farm woodlands.

Culver points out that Illinois forests furnish many useful products. But, with proper handling, these timberlands, especially those located on farms, are capable of supplying a great deal more.

With a little help from a farm forester, many Illinois timber owners can turn their timber resources into the valuable asset they can and should be, Culver explains.

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HDN:dl
10/25/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 5, 1962

Winterize The Power Lawn Mower For Easier Starting Next Spring

A little care in storing the power lawn mower this winter will prevent a lot of headaches next spring, according to University of Illinois agricultural engineers.

U. of I. ag engineer John Siemens says the first step in winterizing the power mower is to clean the engine. Then drain the crankcase and refill it with new oil. Run the engine for a few minutes to circulate the oil to all working parts. The oil provides a film during storage.

Siemens says it's also a good idea to remove the spark plug and to put about two tablespoons of oil in the cylinder. Then turn the engine several revolutions by hand to coat the cylinder walls with an oil film. Also service the air cleaner and grease lawn mower parts.

Probably the most important winterizing chore is to drain the gasoline from the tank and carburetor. Siemens says no gasoline should be left in the engine over winter.

Gasoline evaporates and can leave a gummy deposit on the inside of the fuel tank and carburetor. This deposit makes it difficult to start the engine after long storage and can cause valves to stick.

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HDN:kb
10/31/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 5, 1962

Plastic Greenhouses Less Expensive Than Glass

Nurserymen and gardeners across the state are finding a new use for polyethylene sheet film. They have found that this plastic film, which is relatively inexpensive, can be used successfully as a greenhouse covering.

Plastic-covered greenhouses can often be constructed for one-third the cost of a glass greenhouse, University of Illinois horticulturist J. W. Courter reports. And research has shown that these greenhouses can be used to grow the same crops that are presently being grown in conventional greenhouses.

Because of their low cost, plastic greenhouses also have distinct advantages for seasonal use, such as growing spring bedding plants or summer flower crops. In these cases the structure can remain unheated and unused during the severe winter months.

Researchers report, however, that plastic greenhouses aren't so neat and attractive as glass greenhouses. And in many cases they require a more exact cultural treatment. The plastic covering affects light conditions, temperatures and humidity.

For more information about plastic greenhouses, contact your county farm adviser and ask for a copy of University of Illinois Circular 857. Copies may also be obtained from the U. of I. College of Agriculture at Urbana.

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JEL:kb
10/31/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS   COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE   URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR WEEK OF NOVEMBER 12, 1962

NEWS BRIEFS

The care homeowners give their trees, shrubs and evergreens may determine how well these plantings will survive the rigors of winter, advises a University of Illinois landscape specialist.

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A University of Illinois animal scientist believes that pressure from the meat industry will have a major influence on the future of cattle feeding in the corn belt. Feeders can expect good returns only if they finish cattle to produce quality carcasses with a high yield of retail cuts.

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In all the 87 years the University of Illinois Morrow Plots in Urbana have been in production, only once, in 1958, have they outyielded this year's harvest. The plot getting the "complete" fertility treatment yielded 131.5 bushels this year.

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The dual-system for grading beef, now on trial nationwide, is an attempt to keep up with consumer demands, retailing practices and farm production practices. According to University of Illinois animal scientists, the new system measures retail cutability on one scale and eating qualities on another. Through such a system, the farmer can be more accurately paid for what he produces, the retailer can buy more confidently and the consumer will get a more acceptable product at a fair price.

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The Future Farmers of America was organized nationally in November 1928, during a meeting of students and leaders held in Kansas City, Mo.

The Smith-Hughes Act, passed in 1917, provided federal funds to the states, on a matching basis, for establishing programs of vocational education in public schools.

Vocational agriculture in high school provides an excellent background of training for boys planning to farm, enter agricultural college or work in a wide variety of nonfarm agricultural occupations.

A little care in storing the power lawn mower this winter will prevent a lot of headaches next spring, reports a University of Illinois agricultural engineer.

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If you've been blaming the weather for stunted, yellow seedlings and poor stands and yields from your small grains, you may have picked the wrong culprit. University of Illinois agronomists report that crown and root rots affect all of the commercially important small grains in Illinois. How hard the disease hits depends upon the season, crop, variety and prevalence of the disease-causing organism.

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A roaring furnace fire can put you out in the cold unless your chimney and heating system are in good condition. O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois farm safety specialist, says that one-half of the preventable farm fires involve heating systems.

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JEL:kb
NO
11/8/62

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Choosing Best Fertilizer Program

Farming is a business. And if you're to stay in business you need to know how to control your resources in such a way as to make the largest profit.

A new publication available at the University of Illinois college of Agriculture shows you how to choose the most profitable fertilizer program. It describes a procedure for using money spent on fertilizer most effectively to increase farm profits.

Although the procedure is intended principally as a tool for agricultural consultants, farmers can use it without assistance to analyze their own fertilizer programs.

To receive a free copy, write to the College of Agriculture at the University of Illinois and ask for the circular on "Choosing the Most Profitable Fertilizer Program."

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JFW:dl
11/8/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

JNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 19, 1962

Annual 4-H, FFA Dairy Calf Sale Set For Feb. 23 on U. Of I. Campus

Plans to hold the 15th annual sale of dairy calves for 4-H and FFA members at the University of Illinois Stock Pavilion on Saturday, Feb. 23, 1963, were completed by the directors of the Illinois Purebred Dairy Cattle Association at their recent meeting on the U. of I. campus.

U. of I. dairy scientist Jerry Cash said the quota of calves of each breed was set at 10 for Ayrshires, 15 Brown Swiss, 15 Guernsey, 25 Holstein and 15 Jersey. State breed associations will be responsible for selecting the calves.

Cash points out that the first 4-H and FFA Dairy Calf Sale was held in 1949. Since then 1,217 calves have been sold at the event. Sales are restricted to bona fide 4-H or FFA members residing in Illinois.

Cash says copies of the catalogue for the 1963 sale will be mailed to farm advisers and vocational-agriculture instructors about February 1.

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HDN:mc
11/15/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 26, 1962

More Beef Cows Reported In Illinois

During the past ten years the number of beef cows in Illinois has nearly doubled. D. E. Walker, University of Illinois livestock specialist, reports that there were 695,000 beef cows in Illinois at the start of this year. This figure compares with 380,000 cows in 1950.

Walker says that most of this increase took place between 1950 and 1956. However, the number continues to climb.

During this 12-year period, 13 counties in the west-southwest section of Illinois added nearly 60,000 beef cows. And a nine-county area in western Illinois added 53,000 head.

Walker believes the reason for this trend is that feeder cattle have often brought as much per hundred as fed cattle, or even more. Another reason is that many farmers have quit dairying, especially the small operators selling Grade B milk or cream. Many of these farmers are now raising beef herds.

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JEL:mc
11/20/62

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 26, 1962

"I Didn't Know It Was Loaded"

How often have you heard the excuse, "I didn't know it was loaded"? Now that the hunting season is open, we'll be hearing it more often, says O. L. Hogsett, extension safety specialist at the University of Illinois.

Here are a few simple safety hints for hunting:

Always handle a gun as though it were loaded. When carrying it in the car, make sure it is in the gun case.

Keep the gun on safety until ready to shoot. Carry it so that you can always keep muzzle direction under control, even if you should trip or stumble.

Don't point at anything you don't want to shoot. Be sure you know what your target is before you pull the trigger.

Never climb fences or trees or jump ditches with a loaded gun, and don't pull a gun toward you by the muzzle.

Always unload your gun before going into your camp or home. Never drink alcohol while hunting, and don't engage in horseplay when handling a gun.

Never pick up another man's gun without his approval. Even then, open the action to make sure that the barrel and magazine are empty.

When storing your hunting equipment at home, store guns and ammunition in separate places, out of reach of children.

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JEL:dl
11/21/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 3, 1962

Order Trees Now For 1963

Right now is none too soon for farmers to order the trees they will need for 1963 conservation planting.

University of Illinois forester L. B. Culver says the county ASCS office has conservation program details. The ASCS office, the farm adviser and farm forester have application forms farmers can use to order trees they will need next spring. The farm adviser and farm forester also can offer technical assistance.

Culver says several million tree seedlings are available from the two Illinois state nurseries at Topeka and Jonesboro. These trees are for forest production purposes. Farmers who plant them will be eligible for cost-sharing assistance under the 1963 Agricultural Conservation Program.

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HDN:dl
11/29/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

JNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 10, 1962

llinois Farm Real Estate axes Hit All-Time High

Illinois farm landowners paid a record-sized tax bill of $126 illion this year, according to N. G. P. Krausz, University of Illinois rofessor of agricultural law.

This tax, based on 1961 tax levies, jumped 3.3 percent over he year before and is 97 percent more than in 1950. Real estate taxes bsorbed about 12 percent of total Illinois net farm income, Krausz igures.

Among corn-belt states, Illinois tax levies were the highest. llinois land carried an average tax levy of $4.18 an acre, while re- aining corn-belt states averaged only $2.29. The average tax per acre or all states was $1.30. Only four northeastern states and California arried higher tax levies per acre than Illinois.

Three states, Illinois, California and Iowa, accounted for ver a fourth of the total farmland tax bill. California leads, with llinois in second place.

The lion's share of real estate taxes is used for public schools, Krausz points out. Rising school enrollment creates unprece- dented needs for new schools, more teachers and more operating revenue.

So long as the tax structure remains basically the same in Illinois, the result will be more increases in real property taxes, Krausz concludes.

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HDG:dl
12/6/62

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 17, 1962

Don't Give Your Life For Christmas

The Christmas season is one with a wealth of special memories and associations for everyone. Children's wide-eyed wonder at Santa Claus, the spicy odor of holiday baking, the lovely Christmas music... all seem part of a renewed spirit of peace and good will.

At this time of festivity, O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois extension safety specialist, says that it is perhaps difficult, and certainly shocking, to realize that more people are killed in traffic accidents on Christmas Day than on any other day of the year.

If we could sharply reduce the number of deaths this year, it would be a wonderful contribution to the season's joy. That should be the purpose of each and every one of us as we walk and drive our way through this holiday season. Remember, slow down and live.

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JEL:dl
12/12/62

IEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 24, 1962

Take An Interest In Your Interest

Few farmers have enough money of their own to operate an efficient-sized farm. C. B. Baker, University of Illinois agricultural economist, says that farmers must therefore rely on credit sources to obtain the needed capital.

But credit, like fire, can be a useful servant or a terrible master. Lack of careful planning has caused many problems in its use. On the other hand, wise use of credit allows a farmer to build up his income-earning capacity more quickly than is possible by using family savings.

In borrowing money the interest charge is actually the rent you pay for using the money. With some advance planning, you can cut this cost just as you do with other carefully made purchases. Many farmers are surprised to learn that a 6 percent interest rate can figure out to as much as 8 to 24 percent.

When you consider the use of credit, Baker recommends keeping these four points in mind:

1. Borrow to make money, But watch the interest charges, as they can amount to more than the added returns.
2. Compare the cost of retail credit from banks, production credit associations and other lenders.
3. Check the total credit charges as well as the stated interest charges. Count all handling charges as part of the total finance charges.
4. Be sure to read any document carefully before you sign it.

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JEL:dl
12/20/62

IEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 7, 1963

Shop Early; Seed Supplies Short

Most of the legume and grass seeds commonly used in Illinois will be in short supply for the 1963 planting season. Better shop early, University of Illinois agronomist W. O. Scott advises farmers who are planning spring plantings.

The 1962 alfalfa seed crop was estimated at 4 percent under the previous year's crop. This situation, augmented by a very low carry-over, makes a total supply only a little greater than the amount used in the 1961-62 season. The seed supply of some varieties is very short. The '62 production of Buffalo, an excellent variety for central and southern Illinois, was practically all planted in the late summer and fall of 1962. So seed for this spring's planting will be almost non-existent.

Fortunately, says Scott, there's a fair supply of Cody, a variety very similar to Buffalo, which performs equally well under Illinois conditions. Cody is a selection of Buffalo that is resistant to spotted alfalfa aphid. In University trials it has performed as well as Buffalo, so consider it an excellent replacement for Buffalo, Scott suggests.

Three Flemish-type alfalfas--DuPuits, Alfa and FD-100--are recommended in Illinois for short rotations only, since they are susceptible to bacterial wilt. These varieties recover rapidly after cutting and yield exceptionally well, Scott points out. Seed supplies of all three are somewhat limited. The wilt-resistant varieties--Buffalo, Cody, Ranger and Vernal--may be used in short as well as long rotations, Scott adds.

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The '62 sweet clover seed crop was the smallest on record, he reports. Sweet clover seed, particularly the white blossom type, may be difficult to find.

Production of red clover was only a little lower in 1962 than in 1961, but the '61 crop was low compared with the average. So the total supply of red clover will be only a little larger than the expected use. Prices will be strong, Scott advises.

Both ladino and alsike clover seed supplies are probably adequate. However, Illinois farmers are using less of these clovers. Ladino makes excellent pasture for swine and may be used to good advantage for this purpose. But because it is drouth susceptible, it should not replace all of the alfalfa in the pasture mixture, Scott suggests.

It's about the same story with seed supplies of the grasses. Crops of timothy and brome were lower in 1962 than in 1961. In addition, harvest-time weather conditions last year were such that some of the crop is low in quality.

The total supply of tall fescue is quite short, says Scott, since the '62 crop was 23 percent lower that the previous year's supply.

The one bright spot in the grass picture is orchardgrass. The '62 crop was larger than the '61 harvest. Orchardgrass is in relatively good supply. But demand has been picking up--in Illinois and elsewhere--in recent years, Scott reports.

As a general rule, supplies of legumes and grasses commonly used in Illinois will be relatively light and prices will be strong, says Scott. It may be necessary to substitute one alfalfa variety for another. In any case, shop for quality--high germination and freedom from weed seeds--in all crops, especially brome and timothy seed, Scott advises.

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JJF:kb
1/3/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 14, 1963

4-H And FFA Calf Sale Set For Feb. 23 at U. of I.

Illinois 4-H and FFA members in the market for dairy project calves can buy them at the 15th annual 4-H and FFA calf sale in Urbana on February 23.

The sale starts at 11 a.m. in the University of Illinois stock pavilion.

The sale is sponsored by the Illinois Purebred Dairy Cattle Association to give 4-H'ers and FFA members a chance to get first-rate project stock at a fair price.

U. of I. extension dairy scientist Jerry Cash says about 80 calves will be sold. Quotas by breeds include 25 Holstein, 15 Guernsey, 15 Jersey, 15 Brown Swiss and 10 Ayrshire calves.

Only bona fide Illinois 4-H and FFA members are eligible to buy calves. However, if the member cannot attend, he may designate another person to buy an animal for him.

All purchasers must certify that the calves will be used only for 4-H or FFA dairy projects. For sale catalogs, write to J. G. Cash, Department of Dairy Science, University of Illinois, Urbana.

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HDN:kb
1/9/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 14, 1963

Property Taxes A Major Burden On Agriculture

Although farmers pay almost every tax that is levied, the property tax is probably the most burdensome, report two University of Illinois agricultural economists.

R. G. F. Spitze and W. H. Heneberry made these observations in a report prepared for the Illinois Commission on Revenue, established by the last General Assembly to recommend 1963 tax legislation.

The property tax is practically the only tax revenue source for local government. Rapidly rising local government expenses, especially for education, have caused a sharp rise in taxes for all property owners.

Farmers' property is usually tangible, accessible and familiar to the assessor, so farm property is generally easier to assess than other types. Intangible personal property throughout the state usually escapes assessment completely.

Tangible property doesn't make up so much of the total wealth as it formerly did. Much of the income of the state's economy is not tapped by property taxes. Yet farm property taxes make up a large proportion of local government revenues.

Returns to farm land have declined in recent years, although market values have risen, so rising property taxes have taken a growing share of farm income.

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Farm real estate taxes are higher per acre and per $100 value in Illinois than in any other corn-belt state. They are the highest per $1,000 net farm income in any state west of New England.

Property taxes seem to place a larger burden on farm people than is justified. In 1960, Illinois farm residents made up 5.6 percent of the total state population and earned farm income equal to only 2.4 percent of the total income. But farm property still provided 13.3 percent of the property taxes. The property tax payment on farm property was $259 per person for the farm population compared with $109 of total property taxes for the state population as a whole.

Heneberry and Spitze suggest two ways to improve the farmer's tax position: (1) Improve assessment practices and revise statutes to reach intangible property that now escapes taxation. In this way the burden on farm and other tangible property might be lightened. (2) Revise revenue laws to provide for greater use of non-property taxes to finance expanding public services that are shared by all sectors of the economy.

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HDG:kb
1/9/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11, 1963

New Law Lists Penalties For Polluting Streams

The new Illinois criminal code lists more penalties for polluting streams, according to N. G. P. Krausz, University of Illinois professor of agricultural law.

Krausz reports that a person may be charged with reckless conduct if pollution endangers the bodily safety of persons. If a stream or well is polluted, the violator could be subject to a $1,000 fine, a year in jail, or both. This penalty is the same as in the old law. Now, however, pollution may also be subject to a charge of criminal damage to property. A violator may be fined up to $500, a year in jail, or both.

Besides these penalties, pollution and water sanitation are subject to control by the State Sanitary Water Board, which regulates waste disposal and hears complaints of violations. The board has power to see that no person, corporation or governmental unit throws, runs, drains or disposes of any matter that may cause harmful water pollution. The board can start legal proceedings whereby violators may be subject to a $500 fine, with additional $100 fines for subsequent daily violations. There is also further possibility of a 30-day jail sentence.

Pollution of water by municipal and industrial wastes is becoming a major problem in Illinois, Krausz reports. Legally, downstream landowners are entitled to a flow of water that does not change in quality. Obviously this does not mean that no wastes can be put into natural waterways, but it does mean that "reasonableness" is the rule of the law. An upstream owner will be held to a high degree of caution in disposing of his sewage and industrial wastes.

A farmer showing damage from pollution is entitled to compensation for his losses, Krausz concludes.

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HDG:kb
2/6/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11, 1963

Early Brucellosis Vaccination Important For Dairy Calves

Heifer calves born last fall should be vaccinated for brucellosis soon if dairymen are following the calfhood vaccination plan.

University of Illinois extension dairy scientist Ralph Johnson points out that veterinarians say it's best to vaccinate calves when they are between four and six months of age.

Johnson explains that any animal vaccinated when it is over eight months old is considered an adult vaccinate. This is not an official vaccination for brucellosis. When the heifer is mature, she will be subject to quarantine until she has a negative blood test.

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HDN:kb
2/6/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25, 1963

Start Cool Season Vegetables Now

Illinois home gardeners, anxious to "get into the swing" of garden activities after a long winter, can start most of their favorite cool season vegetables inside, says University of Illinois horticulturist J. S. Vandemark.

Cool season vegetables include early sweet onion, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower and head lettuce. Start these plants now so they will be ready for the garden just as soon as the danger of a killing frost is over, Vandemark advises.

Start warm season plants 3 to 5 weeks before transplanting time. Such plants include tomato, pepper, eggplant, cucumber, muskmelon and watermelon. Home gardeners can start almost any of the vegetables they use, except sweet corn, and then transplant them, says Vandemark.

For best results, start seeds in a soil mixture made of two parts well-fertilized loam soil and one part peat moss or well-rotted manure. Good drainage is essential, says Vandemark, so you may need to add sand or sphagnum moss to "loosen" soil.

When selecting seed, look for adapted varieties that are treated against seed-borne diseases. If seed is untreated, use Captam, Arasan or any of the recommended copper compound seed treatments. Follow the label directions carefully, Vandemark advises.

Cool season vegetable seed will germinate at 55 degrees F. Warm season vegetable seeds need temperatures of at least 60 to 65 degrees; 75 degrees is more desirable, Vandemark suggests.

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A wooden flat two inches deep and slotted for drainage makes a good container to start plants in, Vandemark advises. But if the gardener is using either the basement or porch for his "green thumb" activities, it's best to make some provision for collecting drained water, he adds.

Starting the seeds in commercial peat pots or clay pots cuts down on root loss during transplanting. The added effort of potting will pay, says Vandemark. Pots restrict the roots to the plant. If plants are grown in a flat, they produce spreading roots, part of which are destroyed, adding to the shock of transplanting. The home gardener can make a inexpensive "pot" by removing the top and bottom from a No. 2 can or a milk carton. When transplanting time arrives, such a container gives added protection against cutworms and spring winds, Vandemark suggests.

Watering the plants properly may mean the difference between success and failure. Vandemark recommends watering in the morning only, letting the plants dry off during the day. Moisture on the plants during the day may start disease that can wipe out the entire "plant-starting" project, he cautions.

Circular 816, "Illinois Vegetable Garden Guide," available soon at your local county farm or home adviser's office, offers valuable tips to the home gardener, Vandemark reports.

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JJF:dl
2/19/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

JNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 4, 1963

Latest Research Results Featured At Illinois Swine Day, March 19

University of Illinois animal scientists have invited farmers and all others interested in swine production to Illinois Swine Growers Day, March 19, at Urbana.

This year's program features latest research reports on fineness of grinding corn for pigs, space allotments for pigs on slotted floors, environmental studies with sows, gamma globulin injections for baby pigs, limited feeding for finishing pigs, latest developments in artificial breeding and ovulation control, hog price outlook, new method of cutting pork carcasses, and a panel discussion on swine buildings.

The program begins at 9:45 a.m. in the University Auditorium. Adjournment is scheduled for 3 p.m. Equipment manufacturers will displa some of their latest products in the Stock Pavilion before and after the formal program in the Auditorium. Lunch will be served in the Illini Union Building.

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3/4/63
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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

JNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 11, 1963

Illinois Cattle Feeders Day April 5 At Urbana

The University of Illinois beef cattle division will open its doors to cattlemen on Friday, April 5.

Beginning at 9:30 a.m., visitors will tour the beef cattle farm. Current research on display will include tests on haylage versus corn silage for finishing steers, the effect of fertilizers on the feeding value of corn silage, wintering rations for heifer calves, effect of beef steer conformation on the carcass, and bulls versus steers for producing beef.

Animal scientists will also display mechanical equipment being used on the cattle research farm.

B. C. Breidenstein, head of the meats division, will display carcasses from the type study during the lunch hour in the stock pavilion. After lunch, visitors will meet in the University auditorium, where animal scientists will report on beef cattle research results.

J. E. Zimmerman will tell about the effect of heavy fertilization on the feeding value of corn silage. G. S. Smith will report on the effect of nitrate in hay and silage for steers. A. L. Neumann will discuss a comparison of hay and haylage in steers given a limited or full feeding of high-moisture corn. An Illinois cattleman will present his views on the place of a beef cow herd on Illinois farms. L. H. Simerl, U. of I. agricultural economist, will give his views on the beef cattle outlook.

All interested persons are invited to attend this program.

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HDG:dl
3/7/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 11, 1963

Spring Renovation Makes More Vigorous Lawns

If you've "let your lawn go," chances are it's out of condition, just as you'd be if you lost the battle of the calories. Lawns, like people, need conditioning.

And proper springtime care can make your lawn the pride of the neighborhood, emphasizes University of Illinois turf specialist J. D. Butler.

He suggests these seven steps for prize lawns:

Roll. Freezing and thawing during the winter causes the sod to heave, leaving lumpy, uneven areas in the lawn. You'll probably need to roll your lawn in early spring. But don't do it when the soil is wet. Rolling wet soil or heavy clay soils causes compaction that hinders root development and moisture penetration. Use about 100 pounds of weight for each foot of roller width.

Rake. About a week before the first mowing, rake up the dead grass, leaves, twigs and other debris that's been collecting since last fall. If grass is unusually high, you may have to rake up clippings after mowing. If so, let them dry for a day before raking.

Mow. Mow when the grass is about three inches high. Cut it to a height of about 1 1/2 inches.

Fertilize. Use a nitrogen-carrying fertilizer on lawns twice a year. Apply it in March or April and again in late August or early September. Use 20 pounds of 10-8-6, or a similar analysis per 1,000 square feet for Merion bluegrass. Kentucky bluegrass needs only 12 to 15 pounds. The vigor of the lawn indicates the amount of fertilizer you'll need to use; vigorous lawns may not need as much as is recommended here.

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Water. Lawns usually do not need extra water in the spring. But if they do, soak the soil to a depth of 6 inches. Then wait for about a week before watering again.

Control Weeds. If correct management doesn't crowd out crabgrass, a host of pre-emergence chemicals are now available. Limit them to established lawns, and follow the label directions closely. A rule of thumb--apply them before the lilacs start to bloom. Dacthal, Zytron and calcium arsenate give good results on grassy weeds when used as pre-emergence sprays. For post-emergence control of crabgrass, use DSMA--disodium methyl arsonate--or AMA--amine methyl arsonate.

To control broadleaf weeds, 2,4-D is still the best bet. But follow directions closely when applying. When there's danger of killing ornamentals, use the 2,4-D amine form. It's less volatile.

Control Insects and Diseases. Sod webworms and grubs are two of the biggest lawn problems from the insect world. DDT or chlordane will control webworms. Aldrin or chlordane will control grubs. Apply DDT as a spray. Use either spray or granular form of aldrin or chlordane on established sods. In all cases follow label directions.

For more information on lawn care, see your county farm adviser or write the Agricultural Information Office, 112 Mumford Hall, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois. These circulars are available: Circular 729, "How to Have an Attractive Lawn"; Circular 847, "Twelve Weeds in Your Lawn"; NC-12, "Lawn Diseases in the Midwest"; and Circular 778, "Zoysia Grass for Illinois Lawns."

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JJF:dl
3/7/63
NO

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 18, 1963

Editors' Note: First of a two-part series on crabgrass control.

Use Crabgrass Killers Correctly

URBANA--Before too long, crabgrass will be raising its ugly leaves in millions of Illinois lawns. But today's pre-emergence crabgrass killers, if applied correctly, can take command of the situation.

Such crabgrass killers have an amazing potential. But this potential won't be realized until homeowners use them according to directions, says University of Illinois agronomist F. W. Slife.

Many of these chemicals have a 2X safety factor or less, which means that the homeowner can apply twice the recommendation--or less--without injuring the turf. Overlapping or applying more than directions call for may injure the grass. Low safety factors and poor application techniques have resulted in a rash of complaints to research men, dealers and companies involved, Slife reports.

Careful application with accurate spreaders gives excellent control of crabgrass with no turf injury. But it appears that the average homeowner, with no idea of the potency of pre-emergence compounds, needs a "built-in" 4X safety factor, Slife states.

To lick the lawn injury problem--if the homeowner persists in disregarding label instruction--Slife suggests that it is better to use a compound that gives good control of crabgrass with more safety than to use an excellent crabgrass killer that provides a low degree of safety to turf. Some of the money used for crabgrass control might well be used for fertilizer and good management. A dense turf will have less crabgrass than one that has been neglected. Crabgrass killers aren't the whole answer, but they're an added tool for controlling crab grass, Slife adds.

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JJF:dl
3/13/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 18, 1963

Note to Editors: This is the first of a series of three stories about termites, their characteristics, identification, damage and control and the selection of an exterminator.

Meet Mr. Termite

Termites have been a problem in many areas, including southern Illinois, but not too many people know much about them. These insects are also becoming more numerous in northern Illinois than in the past, says H. B. Petty, University of Illinois and Illinois Natural History Survey entomologist.

Here are his answers to commonly asked questions on termites:

How are termite infestations found? Swarms of flying termites appear in late winter or in spring. Mud tubes built over concrete indicate termite activity. These tubes are usually found on inside basement walls and over outside foundations. Weakened lumber may also show presence of termites. With an icepick or screwdriver, tap lumber to test it for weakness.

How does termite damage to wood differ from other damage? Termites eat only the soft part of the wood, leaving the annual ring intact. They leave the remaining shell in layers and in a splinter-like condition. Termites also seal their runways and feeding areas with mud. On the other hand, carpenter ants gouge large, smooth areas out of wood, disregarding grain. And their galleries are free of mud. Powder-post beetles make tiny tunnels in the wood, producing a fine, powdery sawdust. Several fungi also cause wood rot, but in this case the wood appears charred or crumbly with no apparent tunnels.

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How soon will structural damage occur? Termites may feed in wooden buildings for years before they do any serious structural damage. Damage usually doesn't occur until the colony is 8 to 10 years old unless the ground contained a large population before the building was built.

What are termites? They are colonial insects that feed on wood or wood products, such as paper. Micro-organisms in their digestive tract convert wood cellulose into usable food.

How do termites and flying black ants differ? A flying termite is always black. A flying ant may be black, yellow, tan or almost red. The rear wings of an ant are noticeably shorter than the forewings; the two pairs of the termite's wings are the same size. An ant has a narrow waist just behind the wing-bearing section of its body; the termite does not. Termite antennae are straight; those of ants are elbowed.

Where are termite colonies located? Since termite colonies need a constant, controlled supply of moisture, most of them are located in the soil. They get into houses only in their search for food.

How do they enter a building? Wood in contact with the soil provides an unexposed path for termites into buildings. Basement windows, porches, door sills, wood supports through concrete slabs and siding are other possibilities. Cracks in concrete foundations also provide hidden entryways. When no "paths" are provided, termites will build mud tubes over the foundation and up into the building.

Why do termites build tubes? Since termites die rapidly under dry conditions, they maintain a constant humidity by building tubes. They also seal their feeding area with mud.

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JJF:dl
3/14/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 1, 1963

Release New Book Of Beef Equipment Plans

The Midwest Plan Service has released another in its series of equipment plan books for livestock producers--this one written especially for beef feeders.

University of Illinois agricultural engineer Art Muehling says the 72-page book contains dozens of plans and diagrams representing the latest in homemade beef equipment.

Typical plans in the 8 1/2 x 11 book include bunks and feeders, headgates and squeezers, loading chutes, sun shades, mineral feeders, hoof trimming tables and waterers. Also included are a number of feedlot layouts designed for top beef production efficiency.

The beef equipment book is the fifth in a series of equipment plan books released by the Midwest Plan Service. Others are available on swine, poultry, sheep and home improvement.

Drawings are now being completed for a new dairy equipment plan book which will be available in the near future.

The books sell for $1.00 each. Interested farmers can get copies by writing to the University of Illinois Department of Agricultural Engineering in Urbana.

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3/28/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 1, 1963

Rural Areas Hit Hard By Lightning

Ninety percent of the damage done by lightning occurs in rural areas. Each year lightning kills about 360 persons, injures 900 more and causes about 18 million dollars' worth of property damage in the United States.

Most of this loss is needless, says University of Illinois extension safety specialist O. L. Hogsett. A system of lightning rods, securely fastened and well grounded, will give buildings almost perfect protection.

To protect yourself from lightning, observe these few rules: When caught in an electrical storm, take cover in a building protected by lightning rods if possible. Stay away from open windows or doors and fireplaces, stoves, pipes or other metal objects.

Lightning tends to strike the highest point in an area, so stay away from isolated buildings, towers or lone trees. If you are caught in the open during a severe storm, lie on the ground so that you won't be a target for lightning.

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JJF:dl
3/28/63
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 1, 1963

Build Underground Shelters For Tornadoes And Fallout

URBANA--Tornadoes have taken over 9,000 lives and cost more than a billion dollars since 1916. In 1957, the worst year for these storms, 191 lives were lost and property damages amounted to $74 million

The safest place for you when a tornado strikes is in an underground shelter, says O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois safety specialist. Such structures are easily built and can also serve as fallout shelters.

Your basement is a good location for a shelter. It should be placed in the southwest corner, since the best location is against the wall which the tornado will strike first.

Shelters located underground, but away from the basement, should be built in the same way. The entrance should face the northeast

Hogsett says that the structure for the shelter should be extremely sturdy. He recommends the use of concrete blocks in construction. Metal shelters covered with molded earth three feet deep are recommended for fallout shelters only.

Essential food, tools and water should be placed in the shelter. They should be located out of the way of possible flying debris.

You can protect your family adequately by using proper care and judgment. For more information on fallout and tornado shelters, ask your county farm adviser for some pamphlets on this subject.

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HCJ:dl
3/28/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 1, 1963

Soil Fertility Program Key To Good Garden

To get top production and the most pleasure out of your garden, J. S. Vandemark, University of Illinois horticulturist, recommends that you follow a good soil fertility program.

Since Illinois soils vary greatly, soil testing is the most reliable method of measuring your soil's fertility. Your local farm adviser can help you in testing and planning for your fertilizer program.

For more tips about soil fertility as well as soil aeration, mulching, working the soil and other cultural hints on gardening, ask your farm adviser for the new "Illinois Vegetable Garden Guide."

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HCJ:JJF:dl
3/28/63
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 8, 1963

Look For Bagworms As Spring Arrives

While you're waiting for spring to arrive, it will pay you to check trees and shrubs for spindle-shaped bags one or two inches long. These bags contain the eggs that will produce a brood of bagworms next summer.

University of Illinois entomologist H. B. Petty says that by picking bags off now you can greatly reduce the population you would have next summer. However, if the population is too great, you will have to spray at certain times, depending on the latitude you are in. Times will range from early May in southern Illinois to middle or late June in the northern section.

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HCJ:JJF:dl
4/4/63
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 8, 1963

Try New Garden Varieties

If you are a home gardener who is interested in something different or better than before, try some of the new recommended vegetable varieties that are included in the revised "Illinois Garden Guide."

University of Illinois horticulturist J. S. Vandemark says that all the varieties recommended for use in the state have been tested before being suggested for Illinois home gardens. All the new additions therefore warrant your consideration and observation.

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4/4/63
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 8, 1963

Get Garden Plants From Local Nurseries

In buying plants to landscape your home this spring, get stock from your local nurseryman.

W. R. Nelson, University of Illinois landscape architect, says you might use gift plants, native plants or mail-order stock, but all have their disadvantages. Gift plants may not fit into your plans. Native plants have straggly roots that make transplanting difficult. Mail-order stock might suffer from poor handling or delays en route that may lessen the chances for survival.

Local nurseries have plants that are adapted to your area and that are available for planting at the right season.

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HCJ:dl
4/4/63
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 8, 1963

Legume-Grass Mixtures Prove Best For Steers

Legume-grass pasture mixtures have produced more steer gains per acre than straight grass pastures fertilized with nitrogen.

Results at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Experiment Station show that a cattle feeder could expect about 75 pounds more gain per acre from a legume-grass pasture mixture. The legume-grass mixture produced larger daily gains and also had a longer carrying capacity through the summer.

In southern Illinois where the station is located, either fescue or orchard grass in a legume mixture of alfalfa, ladino clover, red clover and lespedeza is well adapted. In other areas of the state where soils and climate are favorable, bluegrass or brome grass may replace fescue or orchard grass, station research workers believe.

Despite some prejudice against fescue, grazing records show that it is just as productive as orchard grass for yearling cattle. Total gains, rate of gain and carrying capacity are about the same. However, to get full benefit from fescue, these pastures must be grazed closely.

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4/4/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 15, 1963

awn Nutrient Replacement Is Important

Don't let your lawn take nutrients from the soil without eplacing them periodically. A careful homeowner tries to provide nough of the needed nutrients to satisfy requirements.

J. D. Butler, University of Illinois turf specialist, says hat nitrogen, phosphorus and potash are the three plant nutrients most ikely to be deficient in the turf. Nitrogen is required in largest uantities for turfgrass.

Inorganic nitrogen fertilizers are quick acting and cost less er pound than the organic and urea forms. Because the latter two are lower acting, they give a reaction over a longer period of time. ll types have their limitations, though.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 15, 1963

ut Down Your Shrub Pruning Time

You can cut down the amount of shrub pruning you'll have to o by selecting plants with the correct form and mature size and by atching the plant to its environment.

University of Illinois landscape architect W. R. Nelson says hat pruning too severely at one time only encourages sucker growth. rune summer-flowering shrubs and small trees when they are dormant in arly spring. Prune spring-flowering shrubs as soon as they have inished flowering.

Nelson says shade trees require relatively little pruning.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 15, 1963

roper Lawn Management Means Less Weeds

With proper lawn management this spring, you can create a ense turf that will help crowd out weeds.

University of Illinois turf specialist J. D. Butler suggests hat proper watering, mowing and fertilizing will help keep your lawn ealthy. Mowing grass too low reduces vigor and allows weeds to become stablished--1 1/2 to 2 inches is recommended for most Illinois lawns.

Frequent shallow waterings favor weed development. When atering, soak the soil six to eight inches deep every week or ten ays. Your county farm adviser will be glad to help you plan a program or fertilizing. He can also recommend herbicides and pesticides for our use.

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CJ:JJF:dl
/11/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 15, 1963

Plan Ahead For Landscaping Problems

If you are making landscape plantings this spring, lay out on paper the area you will work on before you begin. A scale drawing of your property will help you organize your planting area to best advantage.

University of Illinois landscape architect W. R. Nelson, says that by planning ahead you will know exactly where landscape structures, such as fences and patios, should be located and which plants are required. Also, select plants that will grow in the soil, exposure and space you have available.

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4/11/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 22, 1963

Save Dollars By Using Fungicides

By using some of the modern fungicides at your disposal, you can save those dollars that are now lost annually because of plant diseases.

Since most modern fungicides possess protective qualities, apply them before infection starts, says University of Illinois plant pathologist Mal Shurtleff. During the rainy season, fungicide should be applied at shorter intervals because rain washes away protection.

With all the new and improved fungicides on the market, don't accept outmoded materials still on retailers' shelves. They may reduce the quality and quantity of the crops they are designed to help.

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4/17/63
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Transplant Care Increases Gardening "Luck"

With each passing day, the threat of a killing frost becomes less and brings transplanting closer. Illinois home gardeners will improve their gardening "luck" with a little extra care, says University of Illinois vegetable crops specialist J. S. Vandemark.

He advises following these directions when setting plants into the garden:

1. Transplant on a cloudy day or in the evening.

2. Handle plants carefully. About an hour before transplanting, thoroughly water plants and soil in containers. Block out roots of plants with a knife to get as much soil as possible with each plant root. Remove the plant from the container carefully, disturbing the roots as little as possible. Keep a ball of soil around the roots. Keep the roots moist at all times if they are out of the soil.

3. Dig a hole large enough to set the transplanted plant slightly deeper than it grew in the container or seedbed. If spindly plants are used, set them at an angle in the trench or hole.

4. Use a starter fertilizer solution to get the plants off to a fast start.

5. Cover the roots with soil, and firm the soil tightly around the plant.

6. Protect plants from heat, wind or cold if necessary, using commercial or homemade devices. But don't leave protectors over plants longer than necessary. Plants need ventilation, especially during the warm part of the day.

7. Tobacco users should wash their hands thoroughly before handling plants and not use tobacco when handling tomatoes. Otherwise they may spread tomato mosaic.

For the latest information on gardening--cultural practices, new improved varieties, planting rates and spacing, harvesting and storing--ask your county farm adviser for Circular 816, "Illinois Garden Guide

JJF:je
4/17/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 22, 1963

Improve Your "Luck" With Melons

If you enjoy growing a few melons in your garden, you'll improve your "luck" by remembering some of their cultural requirements, advises University of Illinois horticulturist J. S. Vandemark.

Muskmelons and watermelons produce best on well-drained sandy soils. Cucumber beetles often spread bacterial wilt that affects melons. You'll either have to control these insects completely or lose your crop.

Several new adapted varieties will supplement those already available. Vandemark suggests these varieties:

Charleston Gray. A good-quality light green melon, this variety matures in 90 days and is resistant to fusarium wilt.

Princeton. This long, dark green melon matures at about 25 pounds.

Congo. This high-quality striped melon carries wilt resistance, matures to standard size weighing about 24 to 28 pounds.

Hybrid 103. This hybrid melon is worth considering this year for earliness and quality.

Sugar Baby, Takii Gem. These two small, early-maturing--85-day--varieties deserve consideration if you like small melons.

Hybrid Muskmelons. For well adapted, high-quality hybrids, try Sugar Market, Burpee Hybrid, Gold Star or Harper's Hybrid.

Standard Muskmelons. Among the adapted, quality standard melons, consider Delicious 51, Harvest Queen, Hearts o'gold or Pride of Wisconsin.

Recommended varieties for all types of home garden vegetables are included in the Circular 816, "Illinois Garden Guide," available at your Cooperative Extension Office.

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4/17/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 29, 1963

epair Machinery Before Work Starts

More than 280,000 tractors with plows, discs, planters and ultivators are working in the fields throughout Illinois this spring. efective hitches, seats, clutches, wheels, brakes and steering mechaisms and unguarded revolving parts will cause unnecessary accidents nless they're repaired, says University of Illinois safety specialist . L. Hogsett.

Clean all dirt, trash and grease from platforms, pedals, footests and steps to assure safe footing on equipment, he advises.

Making repairs before using the equipment will reduce costly ield breakdowns as well as accidents and make farm work more pleasant. oorly conditioned machinery irritates and tires the operator, reduces is alertness and causes careless operation.

Field accidents often occur when the operator tries to improve aulty operation that should have been corrected before he got to the ield. Hurry and carelessness account for more than 50 percent of all arm accidents, Hogsett says.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 22, 1963

Spread Corn Maturity; Use Succession Planting

If you want to have high-quality sweet corn all through the season--so that you won't be raising corn for the neighbors when your supply exceeds your own family's demands--try succession planting, select varieties that mature at different dates or combine the two techniques to spread maturity time even more, advises University of Illinois horticulturist J. S. Vandemark.

Be sure the variety you use is adapted to your area. If you use early-maturing sweet corns in your crop-maturing scheme, try some of the 68-day-maturing varieties like Golden Beauty, Gold Crest and Spring Gold. Then you could follow with Barbecue, which matures about five days later than the early corns.

For the early main crop, consider 78- to 80-day-maturing sweet corns like F-M Cross, Gold Cup, Duet Honey and Seneca Chief. These varieties mature about five days later than Barbecue.

For the 85-day crop, try NK 199, Golden Cross Bantam, Jubilee, Tendermost or Victor Golden. Wampum, Country Gentleman and Illinois 13 mature in about 90 days, Vandemark advises.

Or, if you like one particular variety of corn, use it in successive plantings. Plant the second crop when the first one shows two leaves about two inches above the ground; then follow this pattern for as many plantings as you need. If you want to plan for your vacation, count back the number of days needed for your variety's maturity and add the days you'll be gone. Then plant for corn maturing after you return from vacation.

Succession planting and other garden techniques are explained in the Circular 816, "Illinois Garden Guide." Ask for it at your county farm or home adviser's office.

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4/25/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 6, 1963

etroleum Vapors Can Be Dangerous

It's the vapors that burn, says University of Illinois safety pecialist O. L. Hogsett. But, to ignite, petroleum vapors must be mixed ith air.

Production of flammable vapors depends on the temperature, says ogsett. For example, gasoline gives off flammable vapors at temperaures as low as 45 degrees below zero. Kerosene must be heated to 110 egrees F., while lubricating oil releases flammable vapors only after emperatures approach the 400-degree mark.

To use petroleum products safely, just remember that it's the apors that burn. Never refuel a tractor or other motor when it's unning or extremely hot. Sparks can ignite the vapors. Avoid overilling, and leave room for the fuel to expand as it warms. Don't spill r allow spilled fuel to dry before starting the engine.

Flammable liquids should not be stored in buildings. If they ust be used indoors, always handle them in a safety can. Most safety ans have a spring-closed cover to prevent escape of vapors. Buy these ed containers no larger than the one-gallon size, labeled "gasoline," nd never use them for anything else.

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/2/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 6, 1963

itching Tractor Calls For Caution

When a farmer is hitching a tractor to an implement, his place s on the seat--not between the tractor and the machine.

Because they disregarded this rule, many farmers have paid ith smashed fingers, a crippled leg or even their lives, warns Universiy of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett.

In some cases the farmer blames a grabby clutch for his accient. Or maybe he thinks a hand clutch is meant to be operated from ehind the tractor while he juggles the implement tongue. But the anufacturer didn't make the hand clutch for that purpose. So, if the perator gets hurt or killed by misusing it, it's his fault--not the ractor's

The operator doesn't have to get off the tractor to hitch a agon, plow or other implement with a light tongue if he has a hook that ets him lift the tongue while he stays on the seat.

For discs, manure spreaders and other hard-to-hitch tools, ake the time to jack the implement to the right height after stopping he tractor a few inches from the machine.

If a tractor operator doesn't think he has the time to take hese precautions, maybe it's time to get out of the farming business efore an accident puts him out, warns Hogsett.

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JJF:kg
5/2/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 13, 1963

963 Illinois FFA Convention In University f Illinois Assembly Hall

The first convention meeting in the new University of Illinois ssembly Hall will be the 35th annual state convention of the Illinois ssociation of the Future Farmers of America on June 11 to 13.

About 2,000 Illinois farm boys, representing more than 15,500 FA members studying vocational agriculture throughout the state, are xpected to attend the convention.

Two delegates from each of the 453 FFA chapters in Illinois ill comprise the official voting body. Delegates will elect officers, ecognize honorary state farmers and conduct convention business.

Special guests will include National FFA President Kenny Mc- illan of Bushnell, Gov. Otto Kerner and state FFA officials from entucky, Indiana, Missouri and Wisconsin. Many parents and other guests ill also attend the proceedings.

Convention highlights include an address by National FFA resident McMillan, finals in the state prepared public speaking contest, lection of officers and recognition of members' achievements.

Illinois Foundation FFA production and improvement awards will e presented on June 12. The State Star Farmer of Illinois, highest onor presented by the Illinois FFA, will be announced Thursday after- oon, June 13.

Illinois FFA is part of the nationwide Future Farmers of Amer- ca organization with more than 388,000 members in all 50 states and uerto Rico. The FFA program is an integral part of the high school ocational agriculture program.

FFA awards stimulate students to strive for greater achieve- ent. The organization's primary aims are to develop leadership, cooper- tion and citizenship.

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/9/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 13, 1963

Use Machine Guards--Cut Farm Accidents

When their lives may be at stake, farmers have no excuse for working around power take-offs and other moving farm machinery parts without safety guards in place.

The stakes are too high to gamble against having an accident. When a farmer loses to a machine, it's too late to be sorry, warns University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett.

He advises farmers to see their implement dealer if they do not have standard power take-off hitches and shields. They can get hitches and adapter packages for power-driven implements from dealers representing the makers of the equipment. But the best shield made gives no protection if it is not used properly, Hogsett points out.

Some manufacturers of new farm equipment are putting on nonremovable power take-off shields to help protect operators against their own negligence. Farm operators can open nonremovable shields for servicing or inspecting the power shaft.

Most of these shields are being built with a loop around the pipe connection between the universal joints or are otherwise permanently attached so that they cannot be taken completely off. When the drive is in use, the shield stays with it.

So check shields on fans, chains or gears, Hogsett advises. Be sure all these shields are in place before taking the machine to the field or working with it around the farmstead.

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5/9/63
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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 20, 1963

ed Spider Mites May Be Problem Soon

Using DDT to kill cankerworm, elm leaf beetle, tent caterillar and other pests may get rid of them, but it also might start crop of red spider mites.

According to University of Illinois extension entomologist teve Moore, the spray kills the predatory insects that would normally ill the mites, so they develop faster.

Mites are easily detected. Check for them by holding a piece f paper under the branch of a tree while you shake it. Look carefully or the mites, which are usually colorless or pale yellow and may have ark spots of orange, green or black on them.

Also check trees for fine webs among the leaves, which have mall specks on them. That will be the spider mite.

Moore recommends two types of insecticides for best control. pray trees with 1 1/2 pounds of Aramite 15-W or chlorobenzilate 25-W n 100 gallons of water. Malathion and Kelthane also can be used. hese materials have good initial killing powers and are effective for everal weeks. None of the materials are hazardous to use, but always ead the manufacturer's instructions on the label.

Home owners can also control mites by applying a strong stream f water on plants and trees. The stream knocks the mites off the leaves nd drowns them.

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/16/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 20, 1963

Start Controlling Bagworms

It is not too soon to start planning bagworm controls. University of Illinois extension entomologist Steve Moore says controls should begin on or soon after these dates: in southern Illinois, June 1; in central Illinois, June 15; and in northern Illinois, June 30.

The worms feed on nearby foliage after leaving the overwintering bag. Later they form another bag of silken threads and bits of foliage taken from host plants. The bag enlarges as they do, and wherever they travel, the bag goes too. Eventually they attack themselves to a small branch.

The worms feed on evergreen leaves as well as a wide variety of deciduous trees and shrubs. A completely defoliated tree may not die, but an evergreen in such condition might.

Your best bet is to spray the worms while they are small. Moore recommends two sprays: malathion, in a 50 to 57 percent emulsifiable concentrate form, and Sevin, a 50 percent wettable powder. Spray malathion at the rate of two tablespoons per gallon of water. Apply Sevin at one tablespoon per gallon of water.

You can also use lead arsenate and toxaphene.

The worms are not full-grown until late summer, but Moore suggests early disposal.

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HCJ:dl
5/16/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 3, 1963

hite Grubs Can Kill Lawns

White grubs could be called "delayed action" insects when they ttack lawns. They feed on grass roots at the soil surface all summer, ut damage usually doesn't show until late August.

Homeowners can detect damage when grass wilts, turns brown and ies, reports Steve Moore, University of Illinois extension entomologist. hen you roll the sod back, you will find large numbers of grubs eating way at the patch. This sod dies and must be reseeded.

Three types of grubs predominate: true white grubs, annual hite grubs and green June beetle larvae. The true grub hibernates ver three winters below the frost line, while the other species spend nly one winter hibernating.

In the adult form, grubs emerge as black, brown or tan beetles that can be seen feeding on trees or shrubs. Females lay eggs during July to start another cycle.

Moore says that controls can be applied at any time of year. A practical method is spreading insecticides as granules along with fertilizer.

Two effective insecticides are chlordane and dieldrin. Apply chlordane at 2 1/2 pounds per 10,000 square feet, and dieldrin at 1/2 pound per 10,000 square feet.

After spraying, water the lawn to filter the insecticides into the area where the grubs are located. Many homeowners have used spray attachments on their hoses to get both jobs done at once, but for best results Moore suggests watering well after spraying.

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HCJ:dl
5/29/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 10, 1963

Heatstroke Can Be Fatal

Hard work during hot weather may mean no work during any kind of weather. With the beginning of summer the farmer's busy season starts, but so do many cases of sunstroke or heat illness, says O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois safety specialist.

Prevention is the best cure. Regulate activities on hot days so as to do as little work as possible directly in the sun, advises Hogsett.

Sunstroke follows prolonged exposure to the sun, while heatstroke results from excessive heat with or without sun exposure.

The symptoms of heat illness include hot and dry skin, red and flushed face, loud and hard breathing and enlarged pupils. The patient may be unconscious. Heat exhaustion makes the skin cold and clammy.

Remember this major rule in treating all victims: If the patient is hot, make him cool; if he is cold, make him warm.

Hogsett recommends these other procedures in caring for a victim:

1. Place patient on his back, with head and shoulders raised.
2. Apply cool cloths to head. Cool body with cool bath or hose. Rub arms and legs toward the heart to restore good blood circulation.

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3. If patient is conscious, give him cool drinks, but not iced drinks or stimulants.

4. Observe him and if his skin feels hot, continue treatments.

5. Get him to a doctor as soon as possible and, if necessary, continue treatments in the ambulance.

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HCJ:cm
6/5/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 17, 1963

aymaking Time Can Be Dangerous

Haymaking time is a dangerous one for farm people, as more ccidents occur on farms during July and August than at any other time, eports O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois safety specialist.

To help prevent accidents,Hogsett recommends certain safety rocedures:

Check all equipment before starting to work. Repair broken arts on all hay-handling equipment. See that hay racks, barn floors nd ladders are all in good shape.

Make sure safety guards are in place on mowing equipment.

Check all baling equipment, and always turn off machinery efore repairing breakdowns.

Be alert when working, and don't put yourself in hazardous ositions.

Remember, damp hay is a major cause of barn fires. Make sure ay is well cured before you store it in the mow. Check it for several eeks for any signs of heating.

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/13/63
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 17, 1963

se Safety Guards

Accidents respect neither age nor experience. During the usy work season ahead, play safe by having safety shields on power ake-off and other moving machine parts.

According to O. L. Hogsett, University of Illinois safety pecialist, the stakes are too high against having an accident when orking around machinery without guards. Loose clothing can get aught and your arm or leg may be mangled.

Hogsett advises getting standard power take-off hitches and hields from machinery dealers. But they must be attached to do any ood.

Some machinery is equipped with nonremovable power take-off hields to guard operators against negligence. You can open these hields for closer inspection.

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/13/63
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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 1, 1963

llinois Dairy Record-Keeping elow National Average

Illinois dairymen show below-average participation in production record-keeping programs, according to data compiled and released ecently by the USDA Agricultural Research Service.

The USDA report showed that 16.3 percent of all milk cows in he United States were enrolled in Dairy Herd Improvement Association, wner-Sampler or Weigh-A-Day-A-Month programs on January 1, compared with nly 14.9 percent of the cows in Illinois.

University of Illinois extension dairy specialist Jerry Cash oints out that the three record-keeping programs are available to every airyman in Illinois. They are designed to supply production information that will help dairymen cull unprofitable cows and select herd eplacements.

Cash says studies show that Illinois dairymen who participate in record-keeping programs continuously develop more efficient herds han dairymen who do not keep records.

The local farm adviser can supply interested dairymen with omplete information regarding record-keeping programs available in his ounty.

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HDN:dl
6/26/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 29, 1963

unior State Fair Dairy Exhibitors an Qualify For Cash Awards

Junior dairy exhibitors showing cows with certified production ecords at the 1963 Illinois State Fair can qualify for cash awards, ccording to G. W. Harpestad, University of Illinois extension dairy pecialist.

To qualify for cash prizes, cows must have Advance Registry, erd Improvement Registry or Dairy Herd Improvement records. Records howing 400 or more pounds of butterfat in 305 days or less, corrected o mature equivalent, will win the prizes.

Harpestad points out that all exhibitors must have their recrds in good order and be able to identify records with the cows they re showing. Acceptable records must show the registration number of he cow on the record form. Each exhibitor must bring his own records.

Cash prizes are limited to cows bred, born, owned, exhibited nd maintained within Illinois. Harpestad says junior dairy exhibitors re also invited to enter the annual State Fair Milking Derby, where ore cash prizes are available.

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/25/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 29, 1963

UI Develops Inexpensive Device For Testing Milking Machines

University of Illinois dairy scientists have developed an inexpensive milker analyzer designed to check milking machine vacuum lines and pulsators.

U. of I. dairy scientist Leo Fryman says any dairyman can make the device with a vacuum gauge, a water pipe tee, an air-tight valve and a piece of rubber air hose.

Instructions for making and using the milker analyzer are outlined in the new U. of I. leaflet, "How to Make and Use an Inexpensive Device to Check Milking Machines."

The illustrated leaflet explains how to use the analyzer to check the vacuum pump and vacuum system, how to test the vacuum line for blockage, how to test the action of pulsators and how to check vacuum at teat cup level.

Interested dairymen can get a free copy of the leaflet from their farm adviser or from the U. of I. Department of Dairy Science in Urbana.

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HDN:dl
7/25/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 5, 1963

Nutrition And Taste Main Reasons For Buying Meat

People buy meat mainly because it is nutritious and tastes good, not because it adds variety to the meal or is considered economical.

Men considered taste more important than women did. This was one of the findings from a survey of 11,000 people who visited the University of Illinois meat exhibit at the 1962 Illinois State Fair, according to Robert G. Kauffman, U. of I. animal scientist.

When asked what they thought were the most important taste factors in meat, a majority of those replying said that flavor, juiciness and tenderness were equally important. However, men expressed some preference for flavor, while women considered tenderness most important.

During the 1963 Illinois State Fair, visitors will again have an opportunity to give their opinions about meat, but questions will be different from those of last year. This year's exhibit features the latest developments in producing, processing and serving meat in a five-pronged approach that will interest both producers and consumers, Kauffman reports.

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IDG:dl
7/31/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 5, 1963

Tall Crops Create Traffic Hazard

Trees, weeds, bushes and tall crops that obstruct vision crete a serious traffic hazard at this time of year.

University of Illinois extension safety specialist O. L. Hogsett says that too often these obstructions make it impossible for drivers traveling on the highway to see farm vehicles about to enter he road.

Farmers should know how to figure "sight distances" necesary for safety. Here's a procedure recommended by the Illinois Rural Safety Council for finding out what obstructions to remove in order to void possible accidents:

1. Park your car in the driveway with the bumper 10 feet from the nearest edge of the pavement or traveled portion of the road.

2. Pace off 700 feet--280 paces--along the highway to the left on the same side of the driveway entrance, and place a marker at the edge of the pavement.

3. By the same procedure, set another marker down the road in the opposite direction, but on the side of the road across from the driveway entrance. If a heavy, slow-starting truck will use the driveway, set the markers out 830 feet--332 paces--instead of 700 feet.

4. Go back to your car and sit in the driver's seat. If you can't see the markers, clear any obstructions away until you can see them.

Even with "sight distance" adequate at your farm entrance, always make a full stop and look both ways before you enter the highway, Hogsett cautions.

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7/31/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 5, 1963

mplements Compete For Highway Space

More than ever before, farm implements are competing with ars and trucks for space on our public highways.

This increased competition, one result of rapid mechanization n our farms, has brought with it added dangers, says University of Illiois extension safety specialist O. L. Hogsett.

One-third of all tractor fatalities occur on public roads. any others happen on private roads and drives. Mile for mile, it is uch safer to operate an automobile on public roads than to operate a ractor.

If at all possible, plan your farm work to reduce the exposure f slow-moving tractors and farm machinery to traffic hazards. The eavier the traffic, the greater the danger, says Hogsett.

The rules of the road apply to farm tractors and implements s well as to cars and trucks. Come to a full stop when entering the ighway, and do not proceed until the way is clear. Then stay on your ide of the road.

If you must take your farm machinery onto the road at dusk or uring darkness, proper lighting is a must. The evening hours are not nly a period of heavy traffic, but also the time when it is hardest for he motorist to see. In the daylight hours, a red flag on a tall mast elps draw the attention of the motorist to the hazards of slow-moving achinery.

The motorist should not be expected to assume the whole responsibility for rural highway safety. You also must share this responsibility.

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7/30/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 12, 1963

Extra Care Pays In Establishing Lawns

If you're establishing a lawn--fall's the recommended time--pay close attention to the kind of seed, rate of seeding and preparation of the seedbed. Then follow with some extra care so that the lawn will become established, advises University of Illinois turf specialist J. D. Butler.

Kentucky or Merion bluegrass and red fescue are suitable lawn grasses for most of Illinois. For temporary cover you may want to use redtop or ryegrass, he says.

Here are some suggestions that will save you time and effort, and get your lawn off to a vigorous start:

1. After grading and smoothing the area, apply lime if needed. You may also want to apply organic matter, especially if the soil is heavy. Use a soil test as a guide for fertilizer needs.

2. Plow or rototill soil to a six-inch depth. Do not work the soil when it is wet.

3. After working the soil, rake or lightly disk a starter fertilizer into the soil surface. From 10 to 15 pounds of 10-6-4 or similar analysis fertilizer per 1,000 square feet of lawn should work well as a starter. The fertilizer bag label will also give the recommended amount to use for lawn establishment.

4. Just before seeding, break all lumps or remove them from the seedbed. Smooth the soil.

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5. Use a high-quality seed at the rate of 2 or 3 pounds of seed for every 1,000 square feet. You'll get more complete coverage and uniform distribution of seed with a mechanical seed spreader. But if you divide the area into plots and cross-sow--in an east-west direction once and then back in a north-south direction--you'll have reasonable luck with hand-sowing.

6. After sowing, rake lightly to cover the seed. Then roll to firm it into the soil and stabilize the seedbed.

7. Next mulch any slopes with burlap or straw. If you use straw, be sure it's weed free.

8. The last step in starting a successful lawn is watering. Keep the soil surface moist until the seed has become well established, then soak the soil to a depth of six inches and decrease the number of waterings for best results.

Two circulars, available at the County Extension Office, will help you with lawn problems. Ask for Circular 729, "How to Have an Attractive Lawn," and the newly-released Circular 873, "Lawn Weeds: Identification and Control."

Correct lawn management--watering, fertilizing and cutting--will lick most grassy and broadleaved weeds, says Butler. But if you need help, several herbicides--when properly used--give you an added tool to combat weeds. These herbicides are discussed thoroughly in Circular 873 and rated according to the control they afford.

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JJF:dl
8/8/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 12, 1963

Dairy Equipment Plans Booklet Now Available

The Midwest Plan Service has released another in a series of equipment plan booklets for livestock producers--this one written especially for dairymen.

University of Illinois agricultural engineer Art Muehling says the 72-page booklet entitled, "Dairy Equipment Plans and Housing Needs," contains dozens of detailed plans for such equipment as dairy feeders and waterers, loading chutes, cable and plank fences, and gates.

The book also gives planning and layout suggestions for milking plants, stall barns, loose housing set-ups, pen arrangements and feeding systems. A special reference section includes specifications for concrete mixes, building materials and electric motors.

Muehling says the booklets--8 1/2 x 11 inches--sell for $1.00 each. The price includes four cents tax. Orders should be sent to the U. of I. Department of Agricultural Engineering, Urbana.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 12, 1963

Reduce Swimming Hazards

"The 'ole swimmin' hole" season is now in full swing. And rural people especially should take extra precautions when in swimming and in other water sports.

Studies show that lack of skill and poor judgement cause most drownings. Nearly 90 percent of the farm residents who drown are non-swimmers. And most of the child drownings occur in stock tanks, cisterns, tubs and ponds.

University of Illinois extension safety specialist O. L. Hogsett says that tragedies from water sports are for the most part preventable.

Follow these safety suggestions and help reduce needless loss of life from water sports:

1. Thoroughly investigate the safety of the place where you intend to swim.
2. Keep a boat or a raft anchored in the pond, or a pole or a coil of rope handy to use in emergencies.
3. Don't swim alone. Never go into the water when tired, overheated or immediately after eating.
4. Don't overload your boat. It may have seats for more people than the boat should carry safely.
5. Know and heed weather signs. Don't stay out in a storm.
6. Always step, never jump, into the center of a boat. Never stand up and, above all, don't permit horseplay in a moving boat.
7. Do not leave old tubs, boilers, jars or other containers around the farmstead. It takes as little as two inches of water to drown an infant.
8. Protect stock watering tanks. If possible, fence them off or cover them.
9. Inspect the covers on cisterns and wells periodically.
10. Drain or level all depressions to protect your children.

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JJF:dl
8/8/63

EWS FROM AGRICULTURE
IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 29, 1963

ditor's Note: This story of primary interest to north-central Illinois.

uccessful 4-H Beef Day Held

Ninety-one 4-H consignors sold $41,765.00 worth of beef in the nnual 4-H Beef Marketing Day at the Peoria Union Stockyards August 23. lub members from 14 counties consigned 168 head of steers, making the vent one of the most successful ever held, reports 4-H specialist eorge Daigh, Jr., this year's Beef Day chairman.

Quality steers brought good prices, Daigh adds. The bulk of he offering went for 24 1/2 to 25 1/2 cents a pound, and a few went at 3 to 24 cents.

This annual educational event gives 4-H Club members a real pportunity to learn more about marketing their livestock through egular channels, Daigh points out. Members are paid on the basis of uality as seen by beef cattle buyers, rather than unrealistic auction rices.

In addition to observing marketing practices, club members lso learned more about carcass quality. They toured the Armour Packing ompany, where they viewed carcasses of grades they had seen "on the oof."

The annual Peoria 4-H Beef Marketing Day is cooperatively ponsored by the University of Illinois Extension Service, the Peoria nion Stockyards Company and the following commission companies: Dick erm's Firm, Illinois Producers' Livestock Association, Biederbeck rothers, Fifer Company and Liddell and Perrine Brothers.

U. of I. extension livestock specialist Harry Russell helped ommission men sort the steers into uniform lots.

The Beef Day will be held again next year following the Illiois State Fair, Daigh reports.

JF:dl -30-
/29/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 29, 1963

Handle Gasoline Carefully

There's a lot more to filling a tractor's gas tank--and doing it safely--than just pouring in the fuel, says extension safety specialist O. L. Hogsett.

Whenever gasoline comes into contact with air, highly explosive vapors are formed. A pint of gasoline mixed with air has the power of nearly eleven pounds of dynamite. Handling gasoline carelessly--overfilling the tank or spilling the fuel--increases the chance of a dangerous, costly explosion and fire.

Gasoline vapors are three times as heavy as air and are invisible, Hogsett says. This makes it important to have tanks outside of buildings so that fumes cannot collect in large quantities.

Shut off the tractor before fueling, and take special care to avoid overfilling the tank. If you spill gasoline on the tractor, wait at least 10 minutes before starting the engine so that the gasoline can evaporate.

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JJF:dl
8/29/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 28, 1963

-H Dairy Team Chosen

The "final four" club members who will represent Illinois at he National 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging Contest have been chosen, accordng to 4-H Club specialist Frank Mynard. The contest will be held at he National Dairy Cattle Congress at Waterloo, Iowa, September 30.

The four club members making up the 1963 4-H Illinois dairy udging team are Gary Bohart, 17, Huntley, McHenry county; David Doty, 5, R. 1, Somonauk, DeKalb county; Charles Platz, 17, Sigel, Cumberland ounty; and David Ruppert, 18, R. 2, Nokomis, Montgomery county.

The team was selected from an original 415 members who cometed in the state dairy judging contest at Urbana July 2. From this roup the upper 10 percent were invited to take part in the dairy judgng contest during the State Fair in Springfield August 12, where final screening" took place.

University of Illinois dairy specialist J. G. Cash will coach he team.

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/28/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 16, 1963

tudies Measure Fertilizer Response

Research conducted at the University of Illinois Carlinville gronomy Field this year again confirms the importance of phosphorus to heat production, says L. B. Boone, agronomist in charge of the studies.

On fields that had high nitrogen levels, potassium showed no ffect and additional nitrogen showed very little response. Where no hosphorus was added, the wheat--Pawnee--made 42 bushels per acre. ighest yields--60 bushels per acre--came from plots treated with 0 pounds of phosphorus--46 pounds of P_2O_5--in combination with 10 or 0 pounds of nitrogen, Boone reports.

From the results of the test, Boone observed no superiority n types of phosphorus carriers. He supplied equal amounts of phoshorus in treble superphosphate--0-46-0, ammoniated superphosphate--7-8-14, monoammonium phosphate--11-48-0 and diammonium phosphate--18-6-0.

In another phase of the research, Boone increased yields over 5 bushels per acre by applying 50 pounds of nitrogen to Monon soft heat in the early spring. Five recommended soft wheat varieties averged 12 bushels more per acre than hard wheat varieties when given this pring nitrogen treatment. A yield advantage of this size can't be ffset by hard wheat premiums, which seldom go above 14 cents a bushel, oone points out.

These soft wheat varieties definitely have a greater capacity han hard wheats to respond to nitrogen application, he adds. In this est, nitrogen increased soft wheat yields 17 bushels per acre, while ard wheats made only 7 bushels more per acre when treated with 50 pounds f spring-applied nitrogen.

For detailed information on fertilizing wheat and the variaties best adapted in a given area, Boone suggests contacting the local ounty farm adviser.

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/13/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 23, 1963

lan To Replace Snapping Rolls fter About 500 Acres of Use

Worn snapping rolls can create two serious corn harvesting roblems that usually show up when rolls have been in use for 500 acres r more, explains U. of I. agricultural engineer Wendell Bowers.

Worn snapping rolls cause more shelling as ears are removed rom the stalk, Bowers explains. And worn rolls cause more plugging--hich leads to accidents.

Bowers says a good indication of snapping roll condition is he amount of husks left on ears that have gone through the picker. napping rolls in good condition will remove enough husks so that the usking bed can finish the job and deliver clean corn to the wagon. orn snapping rolls leave more husks on the ear.

Another way to check snapping roll condition is to compare olls on the picker with new ones, Bowers explains.

The U. of I. ag engineer warns against trying to extend napping roll life by welding beads on worn rolls, except in an emergency. Welding the rolls will stop plugging, but has little effect on orn losses. In fact, improper welding can even increase losses.

Bowers points out that new rolls in a picker can easily save our to five bushels of corn to the acre. At that rate, they should ay for themselves after about 60 acres of corn harvesting.

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/19/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 30, 1963

UI Agricultural Engineer Gives Guides For Checking Corn Harvesting Losses

Farmers will be money ahead if they use some method of checking corn losses in the field. University of Illinois agricultural engineer Wendell Bowers gives the following guides for checking corn harvesting losses:

To estimate shelled corn losses, count the kernels in a square 40 by 40 inches around four hills in separate parts of the field. Then take an average of the counts. Count more hills for a more accurate estimate.

Bowers says an average of 20 kernels to the hill represents one bushel lost per acre. If you find an average of 80 kernels, you are losing four bushels of shelled corn an acre.

For ear-corn losses, mark off 133 feet--approximately 43 paces--along the row, or take 40 hills in 40-inch checked-row corn and count the number of ears left. Each good-sized ear in this distance represents a loss of one bushel an acre. Again, average at least four spots in the field and kick the husks and stalks around to be sure you don't miss any ears.

Bowers points out that if losses exceed five percent you should make the following checks:

1. Watch tractor speed. Field losses increase with speed.
2. Keep on the row. Getting off the row increases ear losses.
3. Check snapping roll clearance. Run the rolls as close together as possible without causing the picker to plug.
4. If you find it nearly impossible to reduce losses, check the snapping rolls for wear. They may need to be replaced if they have been used for 500 acres or more.

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9/26/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 14, 1963

Safe Machine Operation Depends on Operator

Safe operation of any machine depends entirely on the operator.

University of Illinois extension safety specialist O. L. Hogsett says the operator must always be alert and agile if he is to avoid some of the emergencies that cause serious accidents.

Through training and experience, the best operator acquires habits that cause him to respond automatically to dangerous conditions.

When learning to operate a new farm machine, get someone to show you how to operate it safely before you try it alone. Always be cautious of danger to other people around your machine. Never let them ride on your tractor or on any machine that you're pulling.

Your clothing should fit snugly, with no loose ends. Loose coat tails, large or torn trouser cuffs, torn coats or shirt sleeves and ill-fitting gloves or mittens often cause accidents around moving machinery.

To help reduce farm machinery accidents, learn how to handle the machines safely and know what precautions to take with each machine. Then practice until you automatically make the right response.

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JJF:pb
10/10/63

AG NEWS BRIEFS

Corn prices are expected to be much more stable in the year ahead than in the year just ended, a University of Illinois farm economist believes. Prices are much higher now than they were a year ago, and the price support is 13 cents lower for the crop in 1963 than it was in 1962.

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The 1963 corn crop is estimated at 3.9 billion bushels, 8 percent more than last year. Most of the increased production is coming from increased acreage. Farmers have about 7 percent more acres to harvest this fall than last.

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Now that corn is being shelled in the field, farmers are using several systems for drying shelled corn for safe storage. Batch bin drying was one of the first such systems. It has been updated by use of modern methods, a University of Illinois agricultural economist reports.

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Two Illinois youth are among 18 young men and women who have gone to Uruguay to begin a 4-H Peace Corps activity in that South American country.

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Clean fall plowing that starves out disease organisms helps to break the soybean disease life cycle. Rotating beans with other crops and using clean disease-free seed of resistant varieties also helps to combat diseases.

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Finding cockroaches is no disgrace; the disgrace is in letting them stay, according to a University of Illinois entomologist. Good housekeeping alone isn't enough to prevent or control roaches. It takes chemical treatment too.

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10/10/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 14, 1963

Arithmetic Can Save Your Life

Arithmetic--if you'll apply what you learn--can save you from a corn-picker accident this fall, says University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett.

He says two facts make it dangerous to try to clean stalks out of a picker when it's running: First, it takes you nearly half a second to let go of a stalk after you see it going through snapping rolls.

And when you multiply that time by the speed of the rolls--they'll pull in seven feet of stalks per second--you have a result that can spell injury or death. Even if you grab the stalk at the end, says Hogsett, you're still taking a big chance.

The solution: Shut the picker off! If it clogs so often that this isn't practical, better find out whether the machine is to blame.

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JJF:pb
10/10/63

NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 21, 1963

Illinois Farm Real Estate Taxes Hit All-Time High

Illinois farm landowners paid a record-sized real estate tax bill in 1962, a University of Illinois professor of agricultural law pointed out this week.

N. G. P. Krausz reports latest U.S.D.A. figures showing that Illinois farmers paid $130 million in real estate taxes. This was 3.2 percent more than a year before and double what they paid in 1950. Since 1959 there has been a $4 million increase each year. Real estate taxes absorbed about 13 percent of Illinois' net farm income--about the same as in 1961.

Largest increases occurred in Indiana and Florida. A statewide reassessment in Indiana apparently accounted for a 21 percent increase. Florida real estate taxes rose 16 percent.

Illinois tax levies topped those of all other corn-belt states. While Illinois land carried an average tax levy of $4.30 per acre, remaining corn-belt states averaged only $2.50. The average tax per acre for all states was $1.36. Only four northeastern states and California carried higher tax levies per acre than Illinois.

California, Illinois and Iowa accounted for over one-fourth of the total farm land tax bill. California leads, with Illinois in second place.

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On the basis of land value, however, the tax load has not increased much. For several years it has ranged from $1.25 to $1.35 per $100 value. This would indicate that land values and property taxes are rising at nearly the same rate, Krausz points out.

The biggest share of real estate taxes goes for public schools. Rising school enrollment creates unprecedented needs for new schools, more teachers and more operating revenue.

As long as the tax structure remains basically the same in Illinois, the result will be more real property tax increases, Krausz concludes. New assessments and new proposed multipliers will have this effect even if tax rates stay the same.

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HDG:kg
10-17-63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 21, 1963

Selling Your Hands Cheap?

Have you ever tried putting a selling price on your hands?

Chances are you'd think anyone who asked you to put a price on your hands was joking. But to a farmer who has "sold" a hand to a cornpicker accident, it's no joke, says University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett.

Here are the sad, hard facts: You not only lose a finger, hand or arm when you get caught in the snapping or husking rolls, but it costs you money to get rid of it.

Farmers who have learned from experience know that such an accident costs several hundred dollars in doctor and hospital bills, and even more if they want an artificial hand or hook to "fill in" for the missing hand. And while they're laid up, they have to hire extra help to do their farm work.

The price is so high that it's hard to see why so many farmers pay it each year. Probably the biggest reason is that they have taken chances before and not had to pay. Eventually the law of averages catches up with them.

Just remember, an accident is no respecter of age or experience.

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JJF:dl
10/16/63
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 21, 1963

Be Careful Before You're Injured

The best time to be careful with cornpickers is before you're injured. One hundred six Illinois farmers last year found that "it can happen to me." Many of these men were seriously injured. Five of them aren't around to tell about their picker accidents.

But your cornpicker can be just as safe as you want to make it, says University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett. A safe picker is mechanically sound, well adjusted and operated correctly.

Here are four safety tips. Follow them religiously and you should finish picking your corn without injury.

Never be in a hurry. One of the biggest dangers with pickers comes when the operator gets in a hurry. Which is better--to play it slow and safe or wind up in a hospital minus a hand or foot because you became careless while trying to hurry?

Never try to unclog, adjust, oil or grease your picker while it is running. Always shut off the power before you do any work on the machine.

Don't run your cornpicker when you're tired. Many a hand or foot has been lost when a tired, irritated operator carelessly tried to unclog the rolls about dusk. Better quit early than get hurt because you are tired and careless. If possible, change operators once in a while and rest.

Carry a fire extinguisher on the tractor. During cornpicking there's always some danger that the shucks may catch fire from a hot manifold. In case of fire, a good extinguisher would help save your tractor or picker.

Be wise--economize by preventing cornpicker accidents through safe operation. It's just good business.

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10/17/63
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NEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 28, 1963

Corn Storage Pays Over The Years

Storing corn on the farm won't pay every year. But over a period of years average returns from storing corn have covered total costs plus small profits.

This conclusion was reached by V. W. Davis, USDA agricultural economist at the University of Illinois, from a study of corn price movements and storage costs from 1954 to 1963.

To cover the costs of storing and drying corn from harvest to March requires about 11 cents a bushel; from harvest to July takes about 16 cents. For the ten-year period, corn prices following harvest rose, on the average, 7 cents a bushel from harvest to March, 16 cents to June, 16 1/2 cents to July and 15 cents to August.

Using the past 10 years a guide, Davis points out that a farmer could expect price rises to cover his drying and storing costs to June or July, but he would not recover costs by selling in either March or August.

While in some years a farmer will not recover all costs of storing and drying, he may recover his operating costs. During the 10 years studied, Davis noted that price rises from October and November to March were 5 cents or more in seven of the 10 years. From harvest to July, prices rose 10 cents or more in six of the 10 years.

So, by having farm storage, a grower can choose when to market his corn and not be forced to accept discounts and seasonally low harvest-time prices, Davis concludes.

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10/24/63

IEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 18, 1963

Get The "Jump" On Mice

Every year with the first hint of cold weather, Illinois homes are invaded by mice. Even in this age of chemical control, traps are the most satisfactory control for these unwelcome visitors, says Glen Sanderson, wildlife specialist with the Illinois Natural History Survey and the University of Illinois.

Traps are inexpensive and easy to place, and the mice can be disposed of so they will leave no odor in the house, says Sanderson.

The best bait? It isn't cheese. Peanut butter mixed with a little rancid bacon grease has a fatal attraction for mice. If a mouse doesn't spring the trap, tie a small piece of bacon or a raisin to the treadle with a thread, advises Sanderson.

Around the house, Sanderson suggests anticoagulants or red squill-type poisons only if trapping doesn't control the invaders. Some anticoagulants contain an antibacterial agent that keeps rats or mice from building up vitamin K as an antidote. In the past, some mice were resistant to anticoagulants because of the high level of vitamin K produced by bacteria in their digestive tracts.

Outside the house, Sanderson suggests cleaning up and "mouse-proofing" the premises. In outbuildings where odor is not a problem, use poisons, preferably anticoagulants, placed 8 to 12 feet apart. Mice travel only short distances, says Sanderson. Cover bait stations to protect the poison from rain and pets.

Anticoagulants kill mice and rats with no pain, Sanderson adds. But they must eat the bait for 3 to 14 days before it will kill them.

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11/13/63

IEWS FROM AGRICULTURE

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE 6:30 P.M.
NOVEMBER 20, 1963

PECIAL COVERAGE
MERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRONOMY

J. Of I. Professor Wins Award

Denver, Colo.--University of Illinois agronomist S. R. Aldrich received the 1963 Crops and Soils award for excellence in agricultural journalism at the annual banquet of the American Society of Agronomy here tonight.

The award, made for the first time this year, is given to the individual who makes an outstanding contribution to Crops and Soils, the educational magazine of the American Society of Agronomy. The award includes a certificate and a trophy.

Aldrich was selected as the award winner for his article, "Dry Bulk Handling Comes of Age," which appeared in Crops and Soils. The article dealt with handling dry bulk fertilizer, a field of research and extension in which he has been particularly active since going to the University of Illinois in 1957.

Aldrich has been especially effective in working with agricultural industries, such as fertilizer, limestone and seed dealers. He started and has conducted a series of meetings in New York and Illinois to inform dealers and agricultural technicians of the latest agronomic findings.

Aldrich is the author or joint author of about 40 publications. He is also joint author of a book entitled "Farm Soils, Their Fertilization and Management."

In his latest activity in American Society of Agronomy affairs, he has served as chairman of the committee on elemental guarantees. He

more

has served on many other committees. Last year he was selected as a fellow of the ASA.

Before going to the University of Illinois, Aldrich was extension agronomist and project leader at Cornell University. He received his B.S. degree with high honors in agriculture from Michigan State University in 1938 and his Ph.D. in agronomy from Ohio State University in 1942. He is a native of Fairgrove, Michigan.

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JJF:je
11/14/63

FOR RELEASE P.M., NOVEMBER 20, 1963

SPECIAL COVERAGE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRONOMY

"Plant-Pick" Shows Promise

Denver, Colo.--Limited work at the University of Illinois indicates that using field brome and herbicides in a minimum-tillage program may have a place in heavily cropped or erodable land, U. of I. agronomists Ellery Knake and Tom Hinesly told over 2,000 agronomists here today.

Knake and Hinesly presented their research at the 55th annual meeting of the American Society of Agronomy, the largest in the society's history. Nearly 600 research papers will be presented before adjournment tomorrow.

Knake and Hinesly explained that field brome seeded in soybean stubble in the fall provides winter cover, adds organic matter and aids in improving soil structure.

In the U. of I. study, the agronomists applied herbicides in the spring to kill the brome and control weeds. They used a rotary tiller to prepare a 10-inch strip for planting corn. The chemicals killed the brome and controlled weeds with no further cultivation. The rotary-tilled strips were adequate seedbed preparation. And by not cultivating, the 30-inch middles the agronomists were able to maintain weed control once it was established, they reported.

Yields in 1962, an ideal corn year, ranged from 102 to 118 bushels per acre for the plant-pick method compared with 101 bushels on conventional plots with equivalent nitrogen. Plant stands under the two systems were about equal.

This year dry weather in May emphasized the need for killing the brome early enough to prevent excessive soil moisture loss. The U. of I. agronomists reported that they would continue to work on minimum tillage, giving special emphasis to sandy and other easily eroded soils.

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JJF:je
11/14/63

FOR RELEASE A.M., NOVEMBER 19, 1963

SPECIAL COVERAGE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRONOMY

Differing Varietal Response Confounds Minor Element Research

Denver, Colo.--The complexities of minor element research were emphasized again in a two-year soybean variety study conducted by the University of Illinois on manganese-deficient soils in northwestern Illinois, agronomist D. L. Mulvaney reported here today.

Mulvaney presented results of this research to more than 2,000 agronomists attending the 55th annual meeting of the American Society of Agronomy. Agronomists will present more than 600 papers before adjournment next Monday.

On a manganese-deficient test site, Lindarin and Shelby soybeans showed little or no yield increase, while Chippewa, Hawkeye and Harosoy produced 50 percent more soybeans when treated with manganese, Mulvaney reported.

He found that 10 pounds of manganese sulfate per acre, sprayed on the soybeans when they were 8 to 10 inches tall, was superior to other foliage spray applications or other times of application in increasing yield. Foliar sprays were superior to soil applications banded in the row at planting, Mulvaney added.

While many farmers in the Whiteside county test area are spraying their soybeans and getting a response from manganese, this response is obtained only on Selma sandy loam, Mulvaney pointed out. In addition to varietal response differences, rates of minor elements and methods and times of application also differ. And few of the factors run "true to form" under varying conditions, Mulvaney concluded.

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JJF:je
11/14/63

FOR RELEASE A.M., NOVEMBER 21, 1963

SPECIAL COVERAGE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRONOMY

Varieties, Competition Studied In Corn Population Research

Denver, Colo.--Planting "high-population" corn strains in combination with "low-population" strains showed no advantage in the range of 8,000 to 16,000 per acre, University of Illinois agronomist J. A. Jackobs reported here today at the 55th annual meeting of the American Society of Agronomy.

From 20,000 to 32,000 plants per acre Jackobs also found no advantage in mixing strains. Strains that withstand high populations did best when planted alone. In the experiment, the agronomist mixed various combinations of 2 to 8 kernels per hill.

Higher populations of the strain that was less able to withstand crowding caused fewer kernels to set rather than changing kernel size noticeably, Jackobs pointed out.

On a variety that withstands crowding, higher populations reduced kernel size and number somewhat, but not so much as with the low-population strain, said Jackobs.

In these studies, low yields from low-population strains were not due to smaller plants, Jackobs added, since the amount of stover produced by the low-population strains increased as population increased up to 32,000 plants per acre. With the high-population strain, stover weight remained relatively constant up to populations of 28,000 plants per acre, Jackobs reported.

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JJF:je
11/14/63

FOR RELEASE A.M.- NOVEMBER 21, 1963

SPECIAL COVERAGE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRONOMY

Study Checks Response To Environmental Conditions

Denver, Colo.--A two-year study at the University of Illinois shows that development of the second or third ear may be a better indicator of corn variety response to climatic conditions than development of the top ear. The first ear has "first call" on nutrients and will tend to develop completely, U. of I. agronomist E. G. Siemer reported at the 55th annual meeting of the American Society of Agronomy here today.

Siemer studied the relationships of timing and 13 major developmental events in 22 hybrids and inbred lines under field conditions. He also checked variations between and within seasons with growth curves.

This year--not an ideal corn year--one variety, when planted late, grew taller but produced smaller ears than when planted earlier. Yet tasseling and pollen shedding occurred the same number of days after planting. Dry weather reduced tassel size and vegetative growth. Two different inbred lines may not respond in the same way to the same conditions, Siemer pointed out.

In his research with developmental differences, Siemer is collaborating with U. of I. agronomist R. H. Hageman, who is looking into the level of enzyme activity affecting protein development and the stage of plant development. Another U. of I. agronomist, J. A. Jackobs, is checking variations during the growing season to see how they affect number and weight of kernels and, in turn, yield.

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JJF:je
11/14/63

FOR RELEASE A.M., NOVEMBER 21, 1963

SPECIAL COVERAGE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRONOMY

Nitrogen Enzyme Offers Clue To Selecting Future Hybrids

Denver, Colo.--University of Illinois research from 1956 to date shows that hybrid corn varieties vary widely in their ability to reduce nitrate to a form plants need for building protein. So far the work shows that hybrids having the highest level of activity by an enzyme called nitrate reductase also yield best at high planting rates. U. of I. agronomist R. H. Hageman gave this report at the 55th annual meeting of the American Society of Agronomy here today.

Hageman has evaluated a large number of inbred and hybrid lines for their ability to reduce nitrate. Nitrate reductase assumes greater importance than a single-step action would indicate because it determines how fast amino acids develop from nitrate, the agronomist said. In turn the plant combines these amino acids to make protein, one of the main components required for rapid growth and development of all forms of life.

Soil chemists have shown that soil organisms quickly change ammonium fertilizer into nitrates when it is applied to soils. While plants absorb mostly nitrate nitrogen, they can absorb the ammonium form. Researchers have found high amounts of nitrates in corn plants. The amount varies with the variety, period of the growing season, time of day, shading and amount of nitrogen extracted from soils. Agronomists can study conversion rates by measuring the nitrate content of the leaves. High nitrate in the plants shows low conversion.

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Hybrids vary in the way light affects the conversion of nitrates in the plant to amino acids and proteins, continued Hageman.

Plant population affects the amount of available light. In tests on fertile soil, corn plants grown at 28,000 plants per acre had high nitrate compared with low nitrate in plants grown at 4,000 plants per acre. High accumulation was due to inactivity of the enzyme.

By measuring the activity of the enzyme, researchers know whether plants are converting nitrogen satisfactorily.

Further knowledge of nitrogen reductase activity could lead to superior hybrids based on efficient use of nitrogen. The increased use of nitrogenous fertilizers is considered a major factor in the phenomenal increase in corn production in recent years, Hageman concluded.

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11/14/63

EWS FROM AGRICULTURE
VERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 25, 1963

Prevent Shooting Accidents

If you're one of the thousands who will join the ranks of firearm owners this season, it will pay you to remember that sportsmanship and courtesy may save a life--and that life may be yours. You can prevent most shooting accidents--hunting or target practice--if you'll take a generous measure of common sense along on your trips, says University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett.

According to Illinois Rural Safety Council reports, three causes account for almost all of the accidents reported: people getting in the line of fire, hunters mistaking people for game and hunters carrying their guns with the safety catch off.

For safer hunting and target practicing, Hogsett lists the following ten commandments of gun safety:

1. Treat every gun with the respect due a loaded gun.
2. Before taking a gun into your automobile, camp or home, be sure it is broken down or has the action open.
3. Always be sure the barrel and action are free of obstructions.
4. Always carry a gun so that you can control the direction of the muzzle.
5. Be sure of the target before you pull the trigger.
6. Don't point a gun at anything you don't want to shoot.
7. Never leave your gun unattended without unloading it.
8. Don't climb a tree or fence with a loaded gun.
9. Don't shoot at a flat, hard surface or the surface of water.
10. Never mix alcohol and gunpowder.

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11/20/63
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AG NEWS BRIEFS

The alfalfa weevil, western corn rootworm, Japanese beetle, gypsy moth and cereal leaf beetle are insects that threaten to invade Illinois and cause damage, a University of Illinois entomologist reports. Our rugged climate keeps many potentially dangerous insects in check, but rapidly increasing traffic increases the danger of introducing pests.

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A University of Illinois publication describes the use of grain futures markets in the farm business. It describes how to fix the price of a crop before harvest, how to fix the price of grain in storage for later delivery, how to fix the cost of feed without taking immediate delivery and how to speculate in the price of a crop that has been produced but for which storage is not available. It also describes some common pitfalls in futures trading. Copies are available from any county farm adviser.

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"Building markets at home and abroad" is the theme for the 1964 University of Illinois Agricultural Industries Forum January 23-24 at Urbana.

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The high tide of marketings of spring pigs usually comes the first or second week after Thanksgiving. A University of Illinois agricultural economist believes that this peak will come later than usual this fall. Market receipts promise to be unusually heavy during the first three weeks of December. Receipts will again be very heavy during the first two full weeks of January but should then drop off and gradually decline. The winter seems likely to bring a normal price improvement, however, instead of a price decline such as occurred last year.

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University of Illinois entomologists advise homeowners to take a good look before buying vaporizers to fight flies and other insects that invade the house each fall. They believe that these devices provide at best only partial insect control, and under some conditions can pose a possible health hazard.

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The best bait for trapping mice is peanut butter mixed with a little rancid bacon grease, according to a wildlife specialist with the Illinois Natural History Survey and the University of Illinois.

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11/20/63
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 25, 1963

UI Winter Short Course Set For January 27 - March 6

The 1964 University of Illinois Winter Short Course in Agriculture is set for January 27 - March 6 on the U. of I. campus in Urbana.

The annual six-week course is designed to give young farmers who cannot regularly attend college a chance to learn the latest in farming ideas and methods.

Short course supervisor Warren Wessels says young farmers who attend the short course can choose from 21 courses in the areas of agricultural economics, agricultural engineering, agronomy, animal science, dairy science, horticulture and veterinary medicine.

All short course instructors are college professors, prominent in their fields of study and up to date on the latest research findings.

Wessels points out that record-breaking short course enrollment each year for the past five years has provided an annual gauge of the increasing importance young Illinois farmers are placing on the need for developing technical and management skills to compete in today's modern agriculture.

Cost of the short course will range from $125 to $270, depending on the courses and housing accommodations the individual student chooses.

Wessels urges prospective students to check with their local bankers about possible $100 scholarships. The Illinois Bankers Association has encouraged its member banks to award scholarships to selected students living in their trade areas. The Illinois FFA Foundation also is offering twenty $50 scholarships.

For further short course information, write to Warren Wessels, Short Course Supervisor, 104 Mumford Hall, College of Agriculture, Urbana.

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11/20/63
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EWS FROM AGRICULTURE

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 2, 1963

"I Didn't Know It Was Loaded"

How often have you heard the excuse, "I didn't know it was loaded"? Now that the hunting season is open, we'll be hearing it more often, says University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett.

Here are a few simple safety hints for hunting:

Always handle a gun as though it were loaded. When carrying it in the car, make sure it is in the gun case.

Keep the gun on safety until ready to shoot. Carry it so that you can always keep muzzle direction under control, even if you should trip or stumble.

Don't point at anything you don't want to shoot. Be sure you know what your target is before you pull the trigger.

Never climb fences or trees or jump ditches with a loaded gun, and don't pull a gun toward you by the muzzle.

Always unload your gun before going into camp or home. Never drink alcohol while hunting, and don't engage in horseplay when handling a gun.

Never pick up another man's gun without his approval. Even then, open the action to make sure the barrel and magazine are empty.

When storing your hunting equipment at home, store guns and ammunition in separate places, out of the reach of children.

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JJF:dl
11/27/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 2, 1963

Importance Of Illinois Exports Cited

Annual agricultural exports from Illinois now exceed $450 million, and the total is increasing each year, reports University of Illinois agricultural economist L. H. Simerl.

Leading exports are soybeans and soybean products, corn, wheat and livestock products. Production of crops for export requires 27,000 full-time workers, or about one of every nine persons employed on Illinois farms.

A recent study by the U. S. Department of Commerce showed that Illinois manufacturers in one year exported $1,408 million worth of products, second highest in the nation. About 670 Illinois firms export more than $25,000 worth of manufactured goods. These firms employ 464,000 men and women.

Leading manufactured exports, says Simerl, are construction machinery, construction equipment, metal-working machinery, transportation equipment, electrical machinery, hardware and chemicals.

Leading buyers of our manufactured products are Canada, Mexico, Japan, Venezuela, Brazil, the United Kingdom, Argentina, West Germany, Colombia and the Philippines. For further information, see University of Illinois College of Agriculture Circular 875, "Foreign Trade Facts for Illinois Citizens."

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11/27/63

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 16, 1963

Special: DAIRY WEIGH-DAY--Story No. 5

Dairy Weigh-Day Program Especially Useful For Pipeline Dairymen

Dairy Weigh-Day, set for January 15 in ________________county should be especially beneficial to dairymen milking with pipeline milkers, points out Farm Adviser ________________.

Dairymen with pipeline systems often do not have a reliable estimate of the amount of milk produced by individual cows in their herds. Therefore, they feel the need for a convenient milk weighing system even more than dairymen using conventional milkers.

By taking a little extra time during the Dairy Weigh-Day campaign, pipeline dairymen can receive 10-month lactation estimates on each cow in their herds in relatively little time.

________________ offers a number of methods dairymen with pipeline milkers can use to record milk weights on Dairy Weigh-Day.

One simple solution is not to use the pipeline on January 15. Dairymen who have a milker unit that they use for fresh or abnormal cows can milk all of their cows in that unit on Dairy Weigh-Day. Dairymen with large herds can take two or three days to obtain weights for their cows.

________________ says some pipeline dairymen may want to buy a stainless steel lid now on the market that will fit several makes of milking machine pails and can be used to collect milk from individual cows in the herd.

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The lid has two hose openings--one leading to the pipeline and the other to the teat claw. The apparatus traps milk in the bucket, where it can be weighed and then either drawn up into the pipeline or carried to the bulk tank.

_______________ says other commercial weighing devices are available for pipeline milking systems. One is a glass jar with calibrations in pounds on the side. Another device is a standard milker unit hanging on a set of scales.

Also available are meters that register the milk from each cow on a dial during the normal milking operation. However, these meters are rather expensive.

_______________ feels that all ________________ county dairymen with pipeline milkers should make an effort to cooperate in the Dairy Weigh-Day program. A little extra effort to spot low-producing cows on January 15 could result in higher profits during the rest of the year.

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HDN:dl
12/12/63

EXCLUSIVE
RELEASES FOR EXTENSION ADVISERS
FROM EXTENSION EDITORS . . . 330 MUMFORD HALL . . .

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 16, 1963

Special: DAIRY WEIGH-DAY--Story No. 4

Offers Milk-Weighing Suggestions For Dairymen Participating In Dairy Weigh-Day

The most important piece of dairy equipment in ______________ county on January 15 might well be a scale or other device for weighing milk.

Farm Adviser ________________ points out that accurate milk weights will be a key to the success of the University of Illinois Dairy Weigh-Day program being offered to dairymen throughout the state. Dairymen who participate in the program will receive an estimated 10-month lactation record for each cow in their herds.

_______________ says local dairymen can buy spring scales made specifically for weighing milk for less than $10.00. However, simple platform or bathroom scales will provide accurate weights for the program if dairymen subtract the weight of the milk bucket after each weighing.

The need for subtracting the weight of the milk bucket is eliminated with regular milk scales, since they can be adjusted to the bucket weight before milking begins.

________________ says dairymen who do not have a scale or cannot buy or borrow one can still participate in the Dairy Weigh-Day program by using a stainless steel dip stick from the bulk tank to measure the amount of milk each cow produces.

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Here's how the stick might be used: Before Dairy Weigh-Day, pour water into a clean container one pint at a time. Make up your own Dairy Weigh-Day calibration sheet by writing down the point on the calibrated stick that the water level reaches with each additional pint of water.

On January 15, pour the milk from each cow into the container, and use the dip stick and your home-made Weigh-Day calibration sheet to measure the number of pints produced.

Since a pint of milk weighs approximately one pound, the number of pints indicated on the dip stick also represents the pounds of milk produced by each cow.

Dairymen who have further questions about obtaining milk weights on Dairy Weigh-Day or about any aspect of the program should contact _________________ at _________________.

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12/12/63

EWS FROM AGRICULTURE

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 16, 1963

Safe Christmas Will Be Merrier

Your Christmas will be merrier if it's a safe one, says University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett.

Christmas tree fires are still one of the biggest hazards during the Yule season. To guard against tragedy in your home, use non-inflammable decorations.

Check for frayed wire or loose connections before putting on tree lights. *Never* use candles. Place the tree well away from a fireplace or other sources of heat. Locate the tree where it can't fall across an exit in case it should catch fire.

Use a freshly cut tree. Stand it in a container that holds plenty of water, and then keep the container full of water at all times. Tests at the University of Illinois show that the average six-foot tree will absorb three gallons of water over a two-week period. Unwatered trees may lose half their weight in the same period.

As soon as you've opened your gifts, discard all of the wrapping paper. A mound of paper will make ideal fuel for a dangerous fire if ignited by an inadvertently tossed match or a hot wire.

If you follow these safety precautions, your Christmas will be safer and merrier.

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12/12/63
NO

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 16, 1963

Drive Carefully On Icy Roads

Snappy weather calls for snappy driving. Be sure your safety arithmetic adds up right when you're at the wheel, advises University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett.

Watch for road-surface conditions, and add more following distance when it's slippery. Be more prompt in applying brakes, and add more distance for stopping. Don't forget that your brakes, lights, tires and windshield wipers need special and regular attention during the winter.

Along with these special precautions, here are a few things you should carry with you in the car: a short-handled shovel or spade, a tow rope or tow chain and a sack of dry sand. Also be sure your flares, markers and skid chains are all ready for duty. Carry a good flashlight and an ice scraper to remove ice and frost from your windshield.

And, for good measure, add an extra bit of care when you are driving.

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JJF:dl
12/12/63
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 16, 1963

Will You Be Among Them?

"You have two weeks to live!"

How would you react to that shocking statement? You'd say "Ridiculous!" if someone made that statement to you. You've never been in better health or felt better.

But hundreds of healthy people have only a few days to live, says University of Illinois safety specialist O. L. Hogsett. They are the hundreds who will be killed in holiday traffic between Christmas and the New Year. Thousands more will be injured unless motorists drive more carefully.

The end-of-the-year holiday season is the most dangerous time of the year for drivers. Hogsett cites these two facts: More people are killed in December than in any other month. And more people are killed on Christmas Day than on any other day. He says there are two reasons for this increase--fatigue and over-indulgence.

Here is a bit of advice for all: Don't drive if you've been drinking. If you have to drive, be smart and make that "one for the road" a cup of hot, strong coffee.

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12/12/63
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 1963

urvey Reemphasizes Need For mproved Forage Variety Use

A recent drill-box survey to check intended forage use, life f stand and preferred crops showed that almost 90 percent of the urveyed farmers planned to plow down the stand by the end of the secnd harvest year.

The survey was conducted by University of Illinois extension gronomists and the Division of Plant Industry of the State Department f Agriculture. Under present conditions, agronomists say that farmers ould well afford to plant some of the high-yielding, but wilt-usceptible alfalfa varieties.

Because of their wilt-susceptibility, varieties like DuPuits, lfa and F.D.-100 will last from two to two-and-a-half years. But hey'll outyield varieties like Ranger by at least a ton per acre. Ranger is the most popular variety in the state now. The wilt-susceptible varieties will outyield Vernal by about one-fourth ton per acre. Vernal is a good-yielding wilt-resistant variety that should be used in long-term alfalfa plantings, U. of I. agronomists point out.

The Flemish varieties--DuPuits, Alfa and F.D.-100--have one other disadvantage besides wilt-susceptibility. To get good-quality forage, you must cut early. If you can't cut by late May, you'd better stick with Vernal, Buffalo or Cody. Cutting time isn't so crucial with these varieties, the agronomists say.

Some lots of seed in the study contained as much as 7 percent weed seed. One sample showed 150 giant foxtail seeds per ounce of red clover. This kind of "bargain" is expensive. It will cost $5 per acre just to clean foxtail out of succeeding corn and soybean crops.

The study showed that almost 20 percent of the farmers surveyed were using seed testing less than 80 percent germination. High-quality legume seed should test 90 percent; grass seed should test above 80 percent. Carryover seed often goes "out of condition" rapidly unless it's stored under ideal conditions.

So before you buy your grass-legume seed, know your dealer and read the seed tag. If you carry seed over from one year to another, have it tested before planting it.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 30, 1963

Resolve A Safe '64

Making a few New Year's safety resolutions could prove to be your best way to start 1964, says University of Illinois extension safety specialist O. L. Hogsett. He points out that accidents kill about 8,700 farm people each year and injure more than a million others.

Here are a few facts that will show you the need for safety resolutions:

Farm machines are the main cause of death and injury to rural people. Why not promise yourself to take extra care to keep your machinery in safe operating condition? Never attempt to unclog, adjust or grease any machine while it's running. Resolve to keep all shields and guards in place.

Falls are the next most serious cause of death and injury to farm residents. Good old common sense will prevent many of these mishaps. But just to be on the safe side, why not resolve to check your ladders for safe condition? While you're at it, take a look at the steps and stairs in your home and in your outbuildings. Good housekeeping may prevent a fatal tumble. Make it a point this year to keep stairs clear of debris. In other words, don't use them for storage.

But, remember, resolutions won't mean a thing if you don't make them work.

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